



50th anniversary

1911
1961

GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH - ANNUNCIATION - NORFOLK, VIRGINIA



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Greek Orthodox Church



50th anniversary 1911 1961

DEDICATION

THIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY ALBUM IS GRATEFULLY
DEDICATED TO OUR FOUNDING FATHERS AND TO THE
MANY MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE WORKED SO
FAITHFULLY THROUGH THE YEARS TO MAKE OUR
PRESENT CHURCH AND FACILITIES A REALITY.



FIRST CHURCH OF OUR COMMUNITY—
FREEMASON AND CUMBERLAND ST.



HIS HOLINESS ATHENAGORAS I,
Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople

Τὸ ἄνω μέρος τοῦ παλαιῦ χειρογράφου ἀντικειμένου ἐστὶν ἀποκολληθὲν καὶ ἀποβλήσει.

Ἀριθμ. πρωτ. 70.

Αἰδεσιμώτατε ἐν κληρικοῖς κύριε Κωνσταντῖνε Μπιθίτσικα, Ἱερατικῶς Προϋστάμενε καὶ Ἐντιμότατοι Κύριοι οἱ ἀποτελοῦντες τὸ Διοικητικὸν Συμβούλιον τῆς ἐν Νόρφολκ Βιργινίας Ὁρθοδόξου Ἑλληνικῆς Κοινότητος Ὁ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΜΟΣ, τέκνα ἡμῶν ἐν Κυρίῳ λίαν ἀγαπητά, χάρις εἴη ὑμῖν καὶ εὐλογία παρὰ Θεοῦ.

Ἐκ τοῦ ἀπὸ τῆς 14. τοῦ λήγοντος μηνὸς Ἰανουαρίου γράμματος ὑμῶν, ἀναγνωσθέντος ἐν συνεδρίῳ τῆς περὶ ἡμᾶς Ἀγίας καὶ Ἱερᾶς Συνόδου πάνυ ἀσμένως ἐπληροφορήθημεν, ὅτι ἡ ἀγαπητὴ ἡμῖν Κοινότης ὑμῶν, μέλλει ἵνα κατὰ τὸν προσεχῆ Μάρτιον ἐ. ἔτους, ἑορτάσῃ πανηγυρικῶς τὴν αἰσίως συμπληρουμένην πεντηκονταετίαν ἀπὸ τῆς ἰδρύσεως αὐτῆς.

Ἀναλογιζόμενοι τὴν κατὰ τὸ διάστημα τοῦτο ἐπιτελεσθεῖσαν θαυμαστὴν ἐργασίαν καὶ τὸ ζῶηδὸν ἐνδιαφέρον ὅπερ πάντες ἐπεδείξατε εἰς τὴν τακτικὴν καὶ καλὴν ἐργάνωσιν τῶν κατ' αὐτήν, κατὰ τὰ παρὰ τῶν Πατέρων παραδεδομένα, καὶ κατὰ Χριστὸν προκοπὴν καὶ πρόοδον τῶν ἀγαπητῶν ἡμῖν μελῶν αὐτῆς, προαγόμεθα ὥπως συγχαρῶμεν πᾶσιν ὑμῖν ἐγκαρδίως ἐπὶ τῇ λίαν εὐσήμῳ τούτῳ ἐν τῇ ὑμετέρᾳ Κοινότητι γεγονότι.

Βέβαιοι δ' ὅτι θέλετε συνεχίσει τὴν τοιαύτην πορείαν ὑπὸ τὴν πεπνυμένην χειραγωγίαν τοῦ ἐκλεκτοῦ Ποιμενάρχου ὑμῶν, ἡμῖν δ' ἀγαπητοῦ ἐν Χριστῷ ἀδελφοῦ Ἱερωτάτου Ἀρχιεπισκόπου Ἀμερικῆς Βορείου καὶ Νοτίου κ. Ἰακώβου καὶ τοῦ θεοφιλεστάτου Ἐπισκόπου Νύσσης, ἀγαπητοῦ κ. Γερμανοῦ, ἐκφράζομεν, ἐξ ἀποφάσεως Συνοδικῆς, τὴν εὐαρέσκειαν τῆς Ἐκκλησίας ἐπὶ τῇ εὐτυχεῖ τούτῳ γεγονότι ἐν τῇ Κοινοτικῇ ὑμῶν ζωῇ, ἀπονέμε-
μεν πᾶσιν βλάβουμον τὴν Πατριαρχικὴν ἡμῶν εὐλογίαν, καὶ πᾶν ἀγαθὸν σωτηριῶδες αἰτούμεθα παρὰ Θεοῦ, οὗ ἡ χάρις καὶ τὸ ἄπειρον ἔλεος εἴη μετὰ πάντων ὑμῶν.

Ἡμεῖς Ἰανουαρίου λαΐ.

Ἡμεῖς Ἰανουαρίου λαΐ
Ἡμεῖς Ἰανουαρίου λαΐ



HIS EMINENCE IAKOVOS,
Archbishop of North and South America and Most Honorable
Exarch of the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

ΙΕΡΑ ΑΡΧΙΕΠΙΣΚΟΠΗ ΒΟΡΕΙΟΥ ΚΑΙ ΝΟΤΙΟΥ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ

10 EAST 79TH STREET, NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

25' Ιανουαρίου 1961

Εὐλαβέστατον Ἱερατικῶς Προϊστάμενον
καί Ἐντιμότατον Διοικητικόν Συμβούλιον
τῆς Ἑλληνορθοδόξου Κοινότητος
τοῦ Εὐαγγελισμῷ τῆς Θεοτόκου
NORFOLK, 5, VA.

Ἀγαπητοί,

Μετά πατρικῆς χαρᾶς ἐπληροφορήθημεν ἐκ τῆς ἀπό 18ης
τ.μ. ὑμετέρας ἐπιστολῆς, ὅτι ἡ Ὑμετέρα ἀγαπητή καί εὐλογημένη
Κοινότης ἐορτάζει ἐντός ὀλίγων ἐβδομάδων τὴν Πεντηκονταετηρίδα
ἀπὸ τῆς ἰδρύσεως αὐτῆς.

Συγχαίρομεν Ὑμῖν ἐπὶ τῷ εὐτυχεῖ τούτῳ γεγονότι
καί εὐχόμεθα ὅπως ὁ Κύριος ἀξιῶν ὑμᾶς νὰ ἐορτάζητε καί πολλές
ἄλλας ἐπετείους, ἐν ὑγείᾳ, χαρᾷ καί προκοπῇ. Μὴ δυνάμενοι νὰ
παραστῶμεν αὐτοπροσπίως εἰς τὴν Κοινοτικὴν ὑμῶν πανήγυριν ἐπὶ
τῇ Πεντηκονταετηρίδι ταύτῃ, νοερῶς θὰ παριστάμεθα ἐν μέσῳ ὑμῶν,
προσευχόμενοι ὑπὲρ τῆς ἐν Κυρίῳ προόδου τῆς Κοινότητος ὑμῶν.

Συνεχίζοντες καί συμπληροῦντες τό ἔργον τῶν εὐ-
λαβῶν πρωτοπόρων τῆς Κοινότητος, ἔχετε ἱερόν χρέος, ὅπως τι-
μῶντες τοὺς τε ἐπιζῶντας καί τοὺς μακαρίαι τῇ λήξει γενομένους
ἐξ αὐτῶν, ἐνισχύσητε πάσῃ δυνάμει τὴν π α ι δ ε ί α ν, διὰ τῆς
ἰδρύσεως καί συντηρήσεως Νηπιαγωγείου, Ἀατηχητικοῦ καί Ἑλλη-
νικοῦ Ἐχολείου, ἀπογευματινοῦ τοῦλάχιστον καλῶς ὀργανωμένου,
εἰάν εἶναι δυσχερὲς ἡ ἴδρυσις Ἡμερησίου.

Μόνον διὰ τῆς διδασκαλίας τῆς ἀθανάτου μητρικῆς
ἡμῶν Ἑλληνικῆς γλώσσης θὰ δυνηθῶμεν νὰ ἐπιβιώσωμεν ὡς Ἑλλην-
ορθόδοξον σύνολον, προσφέροντες μεγάλας ὑπηρεσίας ὅχι μόνον
πρὸς τὰς ἐπερχομένας γενεάς, ἀλλὰ καί πρὸς αὐτὴν τὴν δευτέραν
ἡμῶν Πατρίδα τὴν Ἀμερικὴν, τῆς ὁποίας ὁ πολιτισμὸς εἶναι κατὰ
βάσιν καί σύνθεσιν Ἑλληνικὸς. Ἐπὶ δέ τούτοις διατελοῦμεν

Μετά θερμῶν πατρικῶν εὐχῶν πρὸς πάντας

Ὁ Ἀρχιεπίσκοπος Ἀμερικῆς Ἰάκωβος

to American People

AI/BB



HIS GRACE, GERMANOS
Titular Bishop of Nyssa



GREEK ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICA

GREEK ARCHDIOCESE

SOUTHERN STATES OFFICE

600 East Boulevard
Charlotte, N. C.

10 EAST 79TH STREET

NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

20η Μαρτίου 1961

Πρὸς τοὺς Ἀγαπητοὺς Ὁμογενεῖς Νόρφολκ καὶ Περιχώρων.

Επιθυμῶ νὰ σᾶς συγχαρῶ ὁλόθερμα ἐπὶ τῇ
εὐκαιρίᾳ τῶν Εορτῶν τῆς Πεντηκостаετηρίδος τῆς προσφιλοῦς μοι
Κοινότητός σας τοῦ Εὐαγγελισμοῦ τῆς Θεοτόκου καὶ νὰ σᾶς εὐ-
χρηθῶ κάθε πρόοδον διὰ τὸ ἐγγὺς μέλλον καὶ ὑγείαν μόνιμον.

Δὲν εἶνε μικρὸν πρᾶγμα ν' ἀρχίσῃ κανεὶς
ἀπὸ τὸ τίποτε καὶ σήμερον νὰ παρουσιάσῃ μιὰν μεγάλην πρόοδον·
νὰ ἐξασφαλίσῃ ἓνα μέγαλον Ναὸν μὲ ὅλας τὰς εὐκολίας, ἀγνώστους
ἄλλοτε, μιὰν θαυμασίαν Κοινοτικὴν αἵθουσαν, ἓν Ἀπογευματινὸν
Εὐλ. Σχολεῖον καὶ ἓν ἀξιοπρεπέστατον οἶκημα διὰ τὸν ἐκάστοτε
Ιερ. Προϊστάμενόν σας.

Δὲν εἶνε μικρὸν πρᾶγμα νὰ ἔχετε Ὁργανώ-
σεις, Φιλοπτώχους, Κοινωνικὰς καὶ Ἐκπαιδευτικὰς, λειτουργούσας
θαυμασίως, Χορωδίαν πλήρη, Ἱεροψάλτην γλυκύτατον, Διδασκάλισσαν
Ἰκανὴν, Κατηχητρίαν εὐσεβεῖς, Μέλῃ ἀφθονα, Ἱερ. Προϊστάμενον ἐκ-
λεκτὸν καὶ νὰ δίδετε συνεχῆ τὴν Θρησκευτικὴν καὶ τὴν Ἐθνικὴν
μόρφωσιν εἰς περίπου 3000 Ὁρθοδόξους Ψυχὰς μέσα εἰς τὴν Φιλό-
ξενον αὐτὴν Χώραν μας, τὴν Ἀμερικὴν.

Εορτάζετε τὰ 50 ἔτη τῆς Προοδευτικῆς
αὐτῆς Κοινότητός μας μὲ διαφόρους Εορτὰς αἱ ὁποῖαι συμ-
πίπτουν καὶ μὲ τὴν Εορτὴν μας τῆς 25ης Μαρτίου καὶ μὲ
τὴν Εορτὴν τοῦ Εὐαγγελισμοῦ τῆς Θεοτόκου. Εορτάζετε τὴν
ἐπέτειον τοῦ ἀνοίγματος τοῦ νέου σας Ναοῦ εἰς τὴν σημε-
ρινὴν, ὡραίαν τοποθεσίαν, ὅπως εορτάζετε καὶ τὴν ἐπέτειον
τοῦ ἀνοίγματος τῆς αἵθουσας σας.

Ὅλα αὐτὰ ἃς ἀποτελέσουν τῶρα ἓνα σταθ-
μὸν νέας ἐκκινήσεως διὰ μιὰν ἄλλην πραγματοποιήσιν ἐνδὲς
ἄλλου, ἐπίσης ὡραίου, σκοποῦ ὅπως εἶνε ἡ ἀπόκτησις ἐνδὲς Ἡμερη-
σίου Σχολείου ἐνταῦθα διὰ νὰ διδάσκωνται τὰ τέκνα μας τὴν Ἀγ-
γλικὴν, τὰς Παραδόσεις τῆς Ὁμογενείας καὶ τῆς Ὁρθοδοξίας καὶ
τὴν Ἑλληνικὴν, ὅπως καὶ προφορικῶς πολλάκις σᾶς εἶπον κατὰ δι-
αφόρους καιροὺς.

Μετ' εὐχῶν πολλῶν καὶ ἀγάπης

+ Ο Νύσης Γ. Παριζαίδη

Ο Νύσης Γερμ. Πολυζωίδης



My Dear Parishioners and Friends,

Fifty years ago, a few Greek immigrants in our City of Norfolk, started a local community. When they came to America they were aware of the lack of a spiritual center, a center to pray together as a group. Sorrows and grief were their companions but they sharpened their initiatives, developed their intuition. They had many things in common; it was the same cause which brought them here; it was because of the same reason that they underwent deprivations and bereavements; it was the same desire to be together, to pray together, to chat together, to smile together. They decided to create a spiritual center and they did.

After those fifty years, no one has or could have the same experience, because the people, who now come as immigrants have their relatives and friends, finding sympathy, work, education and seldom have their smiles replaced by tears. Not only are their intimate relatives waiting for them, but the American attitude has changed. It is much more sympathetic to the immigrants unlike the situation fifty years ago when the foreigner was an undesirable and was unscrupulously treated as a means rather than an end. Some present day immigrants are rather unappreciative at the expense of their predecessors and relatives, who suffered and fought for the improvements of the advantages given to them by this blessed land of ours.

Some say that "my uncle is illiterate; he is unschooled." The mere fact that his uncle or father does not know the art of writing and reading very well does not

mean that he hasn't mastered the knowledge of his occupation and developed a wisdom that only experience and age can teach. For good or bad he reacted to the needs of his family and to the appeal of his fatherland overseas. This man and thousands of others like him were sending thirty million dollars per year to their relatives and, through them, to their fatherland. They established competitive businesses in America and have struggled to give the best education to their offsprings. They swallowed their pride to make us proud. We are amazed today at their vision. This should not be called illiteracy, but courage and unselfishness.

This year we dedicate with reverence the semi-centennial celebration in appreciation of those pilgrims and their accomplishments. Don't make the mistake of comparing their efforts at the beginning of their community with the measurements of today, because they, as the founders and pilgrims, paved the way, while we only walk on it; they started with roots, while we now only water the fruitful tree. They built businesses; gave environment to you by undergoing humiliation, poverty and grief. Many of them have passed on; some are still with us. Let all of us unite our gratitudes in prayers and thanks for them that started as immigrants fifty years ago and have left to us today a solid foundation, built with their blood, sweat and tears assuring us a better and greater future.

Yours in Christ,

FR. CONSTANTINE BITHOS



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year we are celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Greek Orthodox Church "Annunciation" in the City of Norfolk. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, it is my privilege to extend warmest greetings to all members of our community.

This Golden Anniversary Celebration is the result of community cooperation throughout the years. We all have a right to be proud of our many accomplishments during the past fifty years.

I am confident that in the future the members of our community will continue to expand the present church facilities being enjoyed by our parishioners and children. With His Blessing may our Spiritual and Community life continue to grow.

Theodore F. Constant
President, Board of Trustees

City of Norfolk

Virginia



A P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, the people of Greece, after 400 years of despotic foreign rule, commenced their fight for independence on March 25, 1821, and

WHEREAS, the Greek nation was a loyal ally of the Western Powers in World War II; later combatted Communism and has been a symbol of freedom throughout the years, and

WHEREAS, the Norfolk Greek Orthodox community will celebrate its 50th anniversary in Norfolk during the week of March 19-26, 1961

NOW, THEREFORE, I, W. F. Duckworth, Mayor of the City of Norfolk, do hereby proclaim March 25, 1961 as

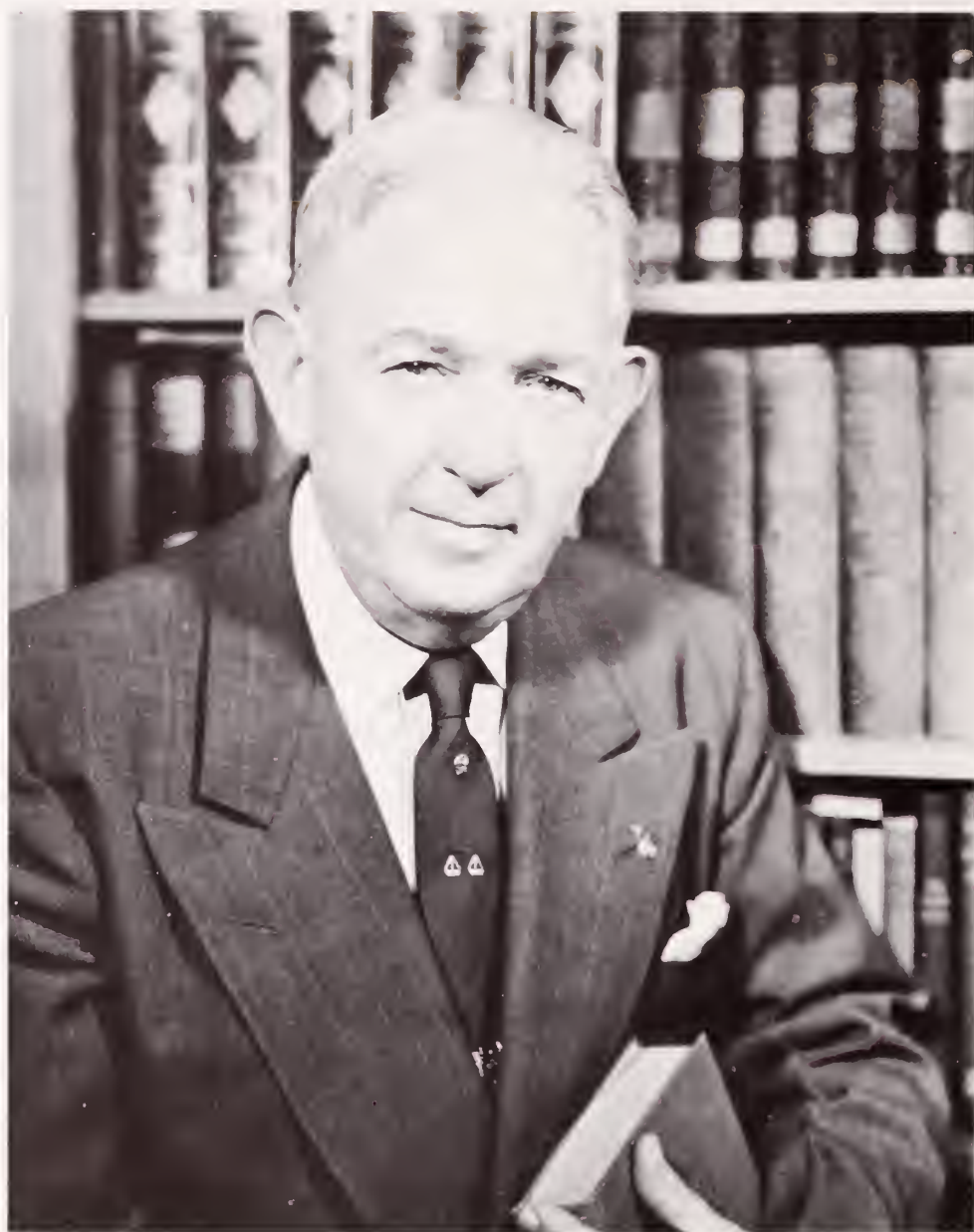
G R E E K I N D E P E N D E N C E D A Y

and call upon our citizens to join our Greek friends in their observance of this historic anniversary.

Given under my hand this 17th day of January, 1961.


W. F. DUCKWORTH, MAYOR





THE HONORABLE J. LINDSAY ALMOND, JR.
Governor of the State of Virginia



COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

RICHMOND

J. LINDSAY ALMOND, JR.
GOVERNOR

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
"ANNUNCIATION":

I am privileged to have the honor of sending you congratulations upon the occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Greek Orthodox Church "Annunciation" and also upon Greek Independence Day, March 25.

The cultural contributions of Greece and its peoples to the world are not surpassed by any other nation. The founding fathers of this great Republic derived many of their ideas and principles from Ancient Greek scholars and philosophers. For this contribution the democracies of the world will ever be grateful.

The valiant Greek people won their independence from Turkey in a long struggle that began on March 25, 1821 and ended in 1830. Descendants of these patriots waged a brilliant battle against overwhelming odds during World War II and fought off successfully the Fascist hordes of Mussolini and were forced to succumb only to the overwhelming power of Nazi Germany.

The Greek people who have migrated to the United States have contributed also to the advancement and growth of the United States. It gives me a great deal of pleasure to wish them success and happiness on the occasion of these two great events.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "J. Lindsay Almond, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

J. Lindsay Almond, Jr.
Governor



We, the Co-Chairmen, appointed for the planning and staging of the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Greek Orthodox Church of Norfolk, want to extend the heart-felt thanks of the entire congregation of our church, to our many friends and patrons who, by their generosity, have made possible this Album.

We also want to acknowledge each committeeman and committee-woman for the giving of their time and talents, thus assuring the success of this 50th Anniversary Celebration.

PETER S. PAPPAS

GEORGE P. KOTARIDES

50th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Co-chairman, Peter S. Pappas

George P. Kotarides

Banquet Committee

Augustus Anninos—Toastmaster
James Manos—Chairman
George Gabriel
Nick Vourlas

Thymos Thymides
George Bacalis
Arthur Polizos

Publicity & Entertainment Committee

Peter D. Galanides—Chairman
Arthur G. Polizos

Tim Mathas
Peggy Anninos

Luncheon Committee

George Gabriel—Chairman
Gus Fountos

Sam Nikitas
Thymos Thymides

Album Book Committee

Theodore F. Constant, Chairman
Rev. Constantine Bithos
Tim Mathas
Tom Vourlas
Stacey Mandelaris
Kathy Polizos
Chris Hariton
Bessie Lira
George Bacalis
Nick Trahadas
James Kukunas

Luke Constantinides
Connie Constant
Harry Kostopolus
Angelo Christie
Peter D. Galanides
Georgia Kotarides
Athena Coutavas
Constantine Rogis
Nicholas J. Georges
Leo Michaels

Director of Budget—Nick Vourlas

Decorating & Hospitality Committee

Lillie Babalas—Chairman
Eva Nichols
Penny Christopoulos
Polly Loizides
Elizabeth Nicholas
Margret Christ
Tena Gretas
Mimi Gabriel
Alice Mathews
Niki Patsalides
Kiki Koutroulas

Kiki Koutroulias
Mary Kyrus
Ellen Sukey
Mary Vourlas
Caroline Papafil
Jenny Gretakis
Mary Barnett
Athena Coutavas
Connie Constant
Bessie Lira
Virginia Rogis

Ticket Sales

Bessie Lira—Chairman
Connie Constant
Helen Cremedas
Mary Vassos
Jenny Gretakis
Tena Gretas
Mary Kyrus
George Bacalis
James Kukunas
Arthur Polizos

Helen Christie
Mary Vourlas
Theodore F. Constant
Peter Mathews
Nick Trahadas
Angelo Christie
Leo Michaels
Constantine Rogis
Tim Mathas

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH "ANNUNCIATION" GRANBY & FIFE ST., NORFOLK, VA.

MARCH 19th - 26th

SUNDAY, MARCH 19th

- 10:30 a.m.—Divine Liturgy, Bishop Germanos of Nyssa, Officiating
7:30 p.m.—Anniversary Banquet: Prime Ribs and Pastichio
Entertainment by Greek Folk Singer, Ted Alevizos
Honored Guests and Principle Speakers Include:
BISHOP GERMANOS, Bishop of Nyssa
ESTES KEFAUVER, United States Senator
ARISTIDE N. PILAVACHI, Royal Greek Embassy, Washington, D. C.
FRED DUCKWORTH, Mayor of Norfolk, Va.
CAPT. M. N. YOUNG, Chaplain, U. S. Atlantic Fleet

MONDAY, MARCH 20th

- 7:30 p.m.—Worship Service. Guest speaker: Reverend Reginald C. Groff, Episcopal Church of the Advent. Social hour sponsored by Cypriot Benevolent Society.

TUESDAY, MARCH 21st

- 7:30 p.m.—Worship Service. Guest speaker: Reverend Mr. Jael B. Whitten, Jr., Knox Presbyterian Church. Social hour sponsored by Junior and Senior GOYA.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22nd

- 7:30 p.m.—Worship Service. Guest speaker: Reverend Mr. David H. Burr, Rayster Memorial Presbyterian Church. Social hour sponsored by Greek Schaal P.T.A. (Reunion).

THURSDAY, MARCH 23rd

- 7:30 p.m.—Worship Service. Guest speaker: Chaplain Ray Bishop, Captain (USN), 5th Naval District. Social hour sponsored by the Hellenic Woman's Club.

FRIDAY, MARCH 24th

- 7:30 p.m.—Worship Service. Guest speaker: Reverend Mr. Hugh Burleigh, Epworth Methodist Church. Social hour sponsored by the Daughters of Penelope and Ahepa.

SATURDAY, MARCH 25th

- 7:30 p.m.—Vesper Service
9:00 p.m.—Anniversary Dance, featuring International Singing Star, ELENI BARTSERI and PETER KARA and His Orchestra.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26th

- 10:30 a.m.—Divine Liturgy: Luncheon Immediately Following



NICHOLAS J. GEORGES
CHAIRMAN

BUILDING COMMITTEE
1952 - 1956



COSTAS MAROULIS
CHAIRMAN

BUILDING COMMITTEE
1956 - 1961

THE PRIESTS WHO SERVED OUR COMMUNITY

REV. FATHER GEORGE SMYRNAKIS	1911
” JOHN ANTONIADES	1912-1915
” WILLIAM AVRAMOPOULOS	1915-1917
” CONSTANTINE KOULOULIAS	1918-1921
” ATHANASIOS AVLONITIS	1921-1923
” EFTHYMIOS KOSTOPOULOS	1923-1924
” ATHANASIOS AVLONITIS	1924
” SOPHRONIOS GEORGIADES	1924-1927
” ANTHONY JOANNIDES	1927-1928
” GEORGE DIORIDES	1928-1931
” NEOPHYTOS VAMBAKOS	1931-1932
” GEORGE MESARCHAKIS	1932
” CHRYSOSTOM TRAHADIAS	1933
” DEMETRIOS MESIRIS	1933-1934
” NICEPHOR PAVLOU	1935-1938
” AGAPIOS GOULAMIS	1939
” NICANDROS PINATSI	1939-1946
” PANOS STAMOS	1946-1947
” PHILOTHEOS AHLADAS	1948-1950
” JOACHIM PAPACHRISTOU	1951-1955
” C. HATZILAMPROU	1955
” ANTHONY PAPPAS	1955-1958
” CONSTANTINE BITHOS	1958

THE PRESIDENTS OF OUR COMMUNITY

GEORGE C. CHRISTOPOULOS	1913-1915
THEOPHANIS KARANIKOLAS	1916-1917
GEORGE C. CHRISTOPOULOS	1918-1921
ELIAS PANAGOPOULOS	1922-1924
CHRIST GEORGIU	1925
GEORGE KARANGELEN	1926
CHRIST GEORGIU	1927-1928
DEMETRIOS BASSIL	1929
SOTERIOS DOUROS	1930
NICHOLAS TRAHADIAS	1931
ELIAS PANAGOPOULOS	1932
CHRIS P. CHRISTOPOULOS	1933-1934
PETER J. BOOGADES	1935-1938
CHRYSTANTHOS THEMIDES	1939
CHRIS P. CHRISTOPOULOS	1940-1941
EFSTATHIOS (TOM) ANARGYROS	1942-1945
PETER J. BOOGADES	1946
MICHAEL COLLAS	1947
CHRIS P. CHRISTOPOULOS	1948
EFSTATHIOS (TOM) ANARGYROS	1949
GEORGE PANAGOPOULOS (PAHNO)	1950-1953
AUGUSTUS ANNINOS	1954-1955
PETER MATHEWS	1956-1957
THEODORE F. CONSTANT	1958-1961

FIFTY YEARS OF PROGRESS

The year of our Lord 1961 commemorates 50 years of service by the Greek Orthodox Church of Norfolk, to the spiritual needs of the Orthodox faithful of our community. This committee, in tracing the life of the Greek Orthodox Church, in Norfolk, has been filled with awe and sincere admiration at the sacrifices made by the founding fathers of our beloved community.

In writing any factual history of this kind, it is necessary to go back to the very first Greek immigrant and trace the course of events from that time to the present. Based on all the records available to us, that first Greek immigrant was Mr. John Gretes, who settled in Norfolk in 1898. To the best of our knowledge, he was followed here in 1900 by the late George Christopoulos and his wife Paraskevi.

Shortly after the turn of the century, less than a dozen men and women had emigrated from the shores of Greece to our city here on the shores of Virginia. Everything was strange to them, the country and the language. They missed their families and friends, but most of all they missed their church.

Unable to afford a permanent priest, our forerunners relied upon the Rev. Fr. Constantine Doropoulos, of Baltimore, Md., to minister to their spiritual needs. Understanding the plight of these new immigrants, the pastor of historic Old St. Paul's Church offered them the use of his church for the occasional services. This church was used intermittently for the next ten years.

On the Sunday of Orthodoxy, March 3, 1911, the Divine Liturgy was celebrated by the first permanent priest, the Rev. Fr. George Smyrnakis, in Old Christ and St. Lukes Church on Freemason and Cumberland Streets. This was truly a momentous occasion, for this was actually the birth of our church. Our forefathers worked long and hard to attain this goal of a permanent priest and a permanent church. The late George Christopoulos, the late George Karangelen, the late Archie Padis, and the late Pericles J. Boogades, initiated a drive among the handful of Greek Orthodox people in Norfolk and raised \$300.00.

This money was forwarded to the late Archbishop of Athens, Theoklitos, with a request to furnish the community with a permanent priest. The Archbishop honored this request by sending the Rev. Fr. George Smyrnakis along with all the necessary liturgical items needed to conduct religious services. At this first service, twenty-five faithful members were in attendance. Now that we had a permanent priest and regular church services were being held, the community entered into an agreement to rent the Old Christ Church for \$33.00 a month.

The same committee of men formulated a constitution and by-laws. Realizing the tremendous responsibilities they had undertaken, they sought Divine Guidance and assistance by acknowledging our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as their Spiritual Head and President. They also agreed that the presiding officer of the church would be the oldest man on the committee. This interim committee that acted as the governing body of our community until 1913, consisted of George Christopoulos, George Karangelen, Archie Padis, Constantine Kalevos, Chris Gabriel, Emanuel Constantinides, and James Constantopoulos. The sole survivor of this committee, James Constantopoulos, served as its treasurer.

In 1913, the late George Christopoulos initiated a movement to hold a General Assembly meeting for the purpose of electing officers and a Board of Trustees for the community. As a result of this meeting, Mr. Christopoulos became the first duly elected President of our community, serving from 1913 to 1915.

By devoting his entire life to the establishment of our Orthodox Community and by constantly striving to perpetuate its mission, it is evident that Mr. Christopoulos must be considered the father of our community.

Mr. Christopoulos was again elected president of the community in 1918. Along with Pericles Boogades and Archie Padis, he was instrumental in the purchase of Old Christ Church, for \$27,000.00. The Church was purchased in 1919, at which time \$20,000.00 was paid. The balance of \$7,000.00 was paid within two years.

In November of 1922, the Rev. Fr. Athanasios Avlonitis was the pastor of our community. These were indeed trying times due to the political upheaval that embraced all of Greece. This struggle within Greece had caused the Greek people all over the world to divide between the Royalist and Liberal Camps. Our community was affected when the Royalist group withdrew from the church and formed the Holy Trinity Church, with the Rev. Fr. John Vassiliades as their pastor. Within two years all differences were settled and our community was reunited. At that time, Father Vassiliades moved to Raleigh, N. C., where he founded the Greek Orthodox Church as we know it today. Therefore, out of the civil turmoil in Norfolk, a new community was established in Raleigh.

Our community, once more unanimous in purpose, continued to grow, and as a child is nurtured into manhood, so our community grew in number and in wisdom. In 1940, the constitution and by-laws of the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America were recognized and adopted. This memorable action was made possible through the efforts of a number of men. The Rev. Fr. N. Penatsis and the then President Chris Christopoulos working with a committee composed of the late Soterios Douros, the late Nicholas Psimas, Costas Maroulis, and Peter Collias studied the constitution and by-laws as submitted by the Archdiocese. At a General Meeting on March 17, 1940, the committee's report was accepted by the assembly. Thus our community recognized as its ecclesiastical authority, the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America, which is the sole representative of our Ecumenical Patriarchate in the Western Hemisphere.

As the years went by, particularly with the passing of World War II, our congregation had increased many fold. Our needs had changed, the times had changed, and the city itself had changed. We had to look to the future needs of our congregation. On August 15, 1943, under the spiritual guidance of His Grace, the Rt. Rev. Germanos of Nyssa, the Rev. Fr. N. Pinatsis, and the capable leadership of the then President, the late Efstathios (Tom) Anargyros, a building fund drive was initiated. This drive realized \$37,500.00, which was invested in war bonds and ultimately returned \$50,000.00. As our pres-

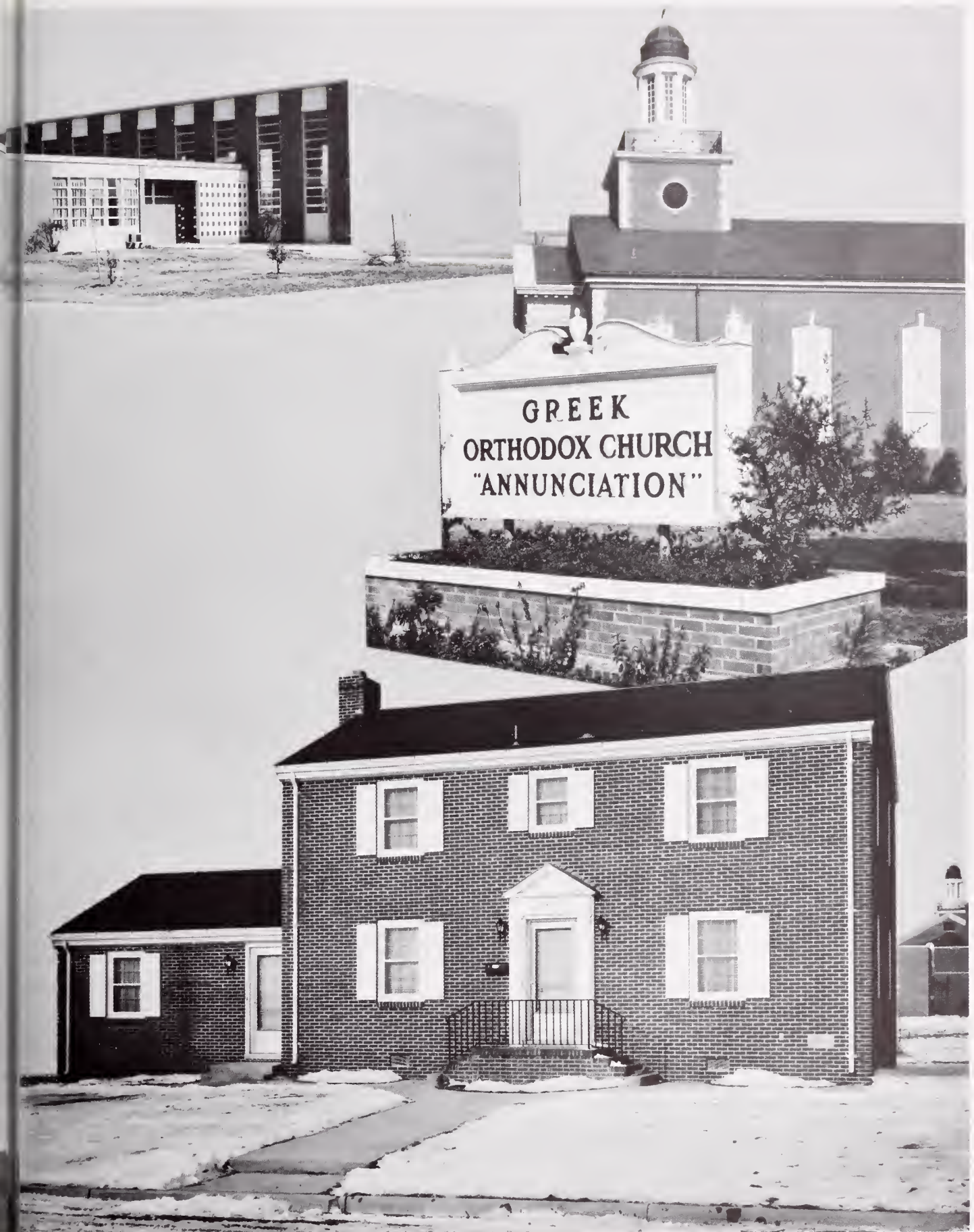
ent facilities became more and more inadequate, the demand for immediate action became great. The late Rev. Fr. Panos Stamos and Peter J. Boogades took the first steps to meet the challenge of expansion. At a General Assembly meeting, on December 29, 1946, a motion was made to purchase our present site on Granby and Fife Streets. A committee composed of P. J. Boogades, Costas Maroulis, the late Soterios Douros and Mrs. Grace Baker was appointed to make a thorough study of this site. On January 19, 1947, at a general assembly meeting this committee recommended purchase of the site for \$12,000.00. The recommendation was accepted and the site purchased.

This site would afford us adequate land for the construction of a church and community center which we needed so badly. Parking facilities would also be ample. Due to building restrictions and a scarcity of materials, the idea of building was shelved until the summer of 1952. At this time, a committee was organized to explore the feasibility of building. The services of Vernon A. Moore Associates were engaged to draw preliminary plans which would give as an approximate building cost.

It was estimated that the first phase of our building program would cost in the vicinity of \$300,000.00. This seemed a staggering sum to raise and so the committee decided to consult a fund raising specialist. Upon presenting the facts, and an estimated cost of our new church to the fund raiser, he stated that before proceeding with ways and means to raise the needed money, we would need at least one \$50,000 donor, two \$25,000 donors, and several \$10,000 donors. When we informed him that we didn't have any such donors, he suggested that we postpone our project until we could get some big contributors. This pronouncement was indeed very discouraging to the committee. However, as we reflected upon the accomplishments of our pioneering fathers in the face of even greater discouragements, we accepted the challenge and assumed the task of raising the funds ourselves.

Shortly thereafter, in October 1952, the group met again and organized formally as the Building and Finance Committee of the Greek Orthodox Church, under the spiritual leadership of the late Rev. Fr.





Joachim Papachristou. The officers of this committee were:

Chairman: Nicholas J. Georges
Vice Chairman: Costas Maroulis
Treasurer: Demetrios Galanides
Secretary: Peter K. Babalas

At this first meeting, realizing that charity always begins at home, the committee led the way by pledging amongst themselves the sum of \$51,250. With this action, the corner stone of our drive was set. This gave us the impetus needed to proceed with our plans for building.

Early in 1953, a second meeting was called at which time four fund raising groups were organized to canvass the community. On February 23, 1953, the treasury of the building fund showed pledges of \$99,600, and cash assets of \$48,465. One month later, the treasurer reported that pledges had reached \$110,250, and cash on hand was \$53,910. In April, through the untiring efforts of Costas Maroulis, the remaining lots on the southeast corner of our property bordering Fife Street, were purchased by the building committee for \$10,000.

The A. & P. Construction Company was awarded the contract to build the first phase of our church project. This included the church, classrooms, and a small social hall. The contract was let in August of 1953 for \$325,000. At long last, the great day was at hand. After years of unfaltering work, our community was ready to officially start construction of our new Church in the best location possible. On September 13, 1953, ground breaking ceremonies were held with the Rev. Fr. Joachim Papachristou officiating. The honor of turning the first spade full of dirt went to Mr. P. J. Boogades. A silver shovel commemorating this event was presented to Mr. Boogades by Peter K. Babalas, the Master of Ceremonies, before a large crowd of enthusiastic viewers.

The next milestone on our road to a new church was February 7, 1954, when His Eminence, the Late Archbishop Michael, assisted by the Rev. Fr. Papachristou, troweled the cement into the cornerstone of our new church. This event was viewed by many dignitaries. Among the 500 people in attendance was Mayor Fred Duckworth, of Norfolk. That evening a cornerstone banquet was attended by over 300

people at the Monticello Hotel. His Eminence, Archbishop Michael, gave the main address before such dignitaries as the Honorable and Mrs. Richard B. Spindle, the Honorable and Mrs. Clyde H. Jacob, Mr. George R. Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. Fred A. Duke, Mr. and Mrs. Norman R. Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. Vernon A. Moore, and Mr. and Mrs. William R. Moore.

The first services in our new church were held March 27, 1955. It was indeed a great day. Our hearts were filled with thanksgiving to Almighty God who had blessed our efforts. But still our hearts were heavy for we missed our spiritual leader. For only one month before, our congregation had been stunned by the sudden passing of Fr. Papachristou. We wished he could have lived to enjoy the fruits of his labor.

A Victory Banquet and Dance was held to celebrate the completion of the church. Highlights of the evening were speeches by the new Spiritual Leader of the community, Rev. Fr. Anthony Pappas, the President of the community, Augustus Anninos, and the chairman of the building committee, Nicholas J. Georges.

Just prior to the Victory dance, the announcement was made that the old church had been sold for \$45,000. The official date of sale was May 17, 1955. The sale of the church was accomplished through the fine efforts of Nicholas Gretakis and Peter K. Babalas.

During the next two years, it became obvious that although the new church was more than adequate for the religious services and ceremonies, there was a definite shortage of classrooms for the Sunday School. Therefore, in May of 1957, Mr. Costas Maroulis, now chairman of the Building Committee, was authorized by the General Assembly to construct a building housing six additional Sunday School rooms. Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Boogades generously donated \$10,000 to be used to help pay for these new classrooms.

Before any work was started on this project, a very memorable event took place. In our church social hall, a capacity crowd was on hand to witness the burning of the church mortgage. This honor went to the Hellenic Woman's Club who furnished the necessary funds to retire the \$4,000 mortgage. This never to be forgotten date was December 29, 1957. At this

same event the Board of Trustees presented Mr. Telemachos Anthoulides with a silver bowl and a scroll, marking his 35 years of professional service to the church.

Another big first for our church was the hiring of a permanent full time secretary on January 9, 1958. Our community had grown to the extent that a full time secretary had become a necessity.

At a General Assembly meeting on Sunday, January 19, 1958, the community, realizing the need for a Community Center, as well as class rooms to meet our ever increasing needs, passed a motion, made by the late Tom Anargyros and seconded by Paul Yeonas, to give the Board of Trustees full authority to erect a building that would fulfill our every need.

Vernon A. Moore and Associates, the architects that designed our church, were employed to draw the plans and specifications for our new Community Center and classrooms. Mr. L. J. Hoy, the general contractor, who submitted the lowest bid, was awarded the job of building our Community Center by the Board of Trustees on June 24, 1958.

Through the fine cooperation of the Seaboard Citizens National Bank, the Board of Trustees was able to borrow \$150,000 at only 4½% interest. These funds enabled us to move ahead swiftly with our new Community Center.

On July 6, 1958, Mr. P. J. Boogades broke ground to initiate the building of our new center. The Rev. Fr. Anthony N. Pappas was on hand to furnish spiritual guidance.

On Sunday, October 19, 1958, the Rev. Fr. Constantine Bithos assumed the responsibilities of the Spiritual leader of our community. After celebrating his first Divine Liturgy in our church, an open house was held so that all the members would have an opportunity to meet him personally.

On Sunday, November 30, 1958, an impressive procession of parishioners marched from the church to the Community Center site. There, with His Grace The Rt. Rev. Polyefktos, Bishop of Tropaion, Pittsburgh Diocese, officiating and the Rev. Fr. Constantine Bithos assisting, the cornerstone of our new building was officially laid.

Around Christmas of 1958, an addition was made to the interior of our church. Through the efforts of the late Tom Anargyros, \$2,700 was raised for the beautiful new Aghia Trapeza (Holy Table) that is now in our altar. This money came from 27 different people of our community.

After church services on Sunday, March 8, 1959, Bishop Germanos of Constantia, of the New York Diocese, blessed our new Community Center. To celebrate the opening of our new all purpose building, the Hellenic Community Center, a gala dance was held that evening. With music supplied by Gus Vali and his orchestra from New York, 750 joyous parishioners danced to both Greek and American music and had a most enjoyable evening. At this most successful affair, we were able to realize a net profit of \$10,830, from a program book with ads, dance tickets, cloak room service and the sale of soft drinks. This money was applied toward the new center which cost \$184,929.96. This total was comprised of the following expenditures:

Original Contract	\$144,843.00
Plastering Ceiling—	
Changing of lights	7,025.59
Tiling floors and kitchen wall	1,734.47
Dimmers for lights	1,463.04
Air Conditioning	10,711.25
Other Extras	822.27
Filling Lot	4,201.15
Tables and Chairs	3,124.55
Water Fountain	222.46
Office and Check Room	
Equipment	922.32
Stone on parking lot	956.50
Stage Curtains	1,149.59
Architect Fees	7,753.77
Total	\$184,929.96

Our Center was further enriched by an anonymous donor who gave a \$1,600 Baby Grand piano. In addition the Hellenic Woman's Club equipped the kitchen in full, at a cost of \$12,000.

At a special General Assembly meeting on Sunday, May 31, 1959, the Board of Trustees was authorized to accept the lowest bid of \$29,710, by E. M. Pope Construction Company, to build a parish home on Midfield Street. In order to accomplish this project, they were also authorized to borrow \$25,000 from Seaboard Citizens National Bank.

Our community was truly blessed on Sunday, January 17, 1960, when His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos of North and South America celebrated the Divine Liturgy for the first time in our church. Through the efforts of Costas Maroulis and the courtesy of WTAR-TV, our church services were televised for the first time in this area.

Our parishioners turned out in force to hear the enriching words of His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America. The public comments to this viewing were indeed overwhelming. That evening, over 400 people attended a Prime Rib banquet honoring His Eminence Archbishop Iakovos. Included among those who were there paying their respects to the Archbishop, were many prominent local and state officials.

In March, 1960, the Rev. Fr. Bithos and his family moved into the completed Parish home. This was a fitting way for our community to bring to a close the first 50 years of growth and progress of our beloved Annunciation Church, in Norfolk, Virginia. The final payment to the contractor was made in April of 1960. The Rev. Fr. and Presvitera Bithos opened their home to the parishioners for coffee and sweets on May 27, 1960, which appropriately was St. Constantines Day.

As of this writing, we have celebrated 50 years of Orthodoxy in Norfolk. The week of March 19 thru the 26th was proclaimed "Greek Orthodox Week" in Norfolk, by Mayor Fred Duckworth. A full schedule of activities was arranged by the

chairman of the 50th Anniversary Committee, George Kotarides and Peter S. Pappas. The week's festivities were begun with a banquet. Guests at this banquet were: Sen. Estes Kefauver, First Counselor to the Greek Ambassador, Aristide N. Pilavachi, and Bishop Germanos. During the week, various services were held nightly with distinguished speakers on hand each night. Saturday night brought the International singing star, Eleni Barteri and the music of Peter Kara into our Community Center for a gala evening of dancing and entertainment. That week's activities will be longed remembered by all who attended.

As we look back over our 50 years of progress, it is an amazing fact that the month of March has been the dominant month in the history of our community. In this month, we had the celebration of a Liturgy by our first permanent priest, recognition of the Archdiocese as our ecclesiastical authority, the first Liturgy in our new church, the opening of our Community Center and the opening of our Parish home. As we look to the future we see continued progress and growth. Our hopes and dreams will become reality as did the hopes and dreams of our forefathers. Projects to be considered first will be an educational wing, an outdoor athletic field, the paving of the parking lot and the landscaping of all the church grounds. As ever, it must be our goal to move forward, expanding and modernizing to meet the always increasing needs of our community.

THE END

THE COMMITTEE WISHES TO THANK ALL THOSE PEOPLE WHO COOPERATED IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS ARTICLE. ALL OF THE AVAILABLE CHURCH RECORDS WERE THE SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR THIS HISTORY. SHOULD THERE BE ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS, WE WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO APOLOGIZE.



GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH ANUNCIATION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FIRST ROW (left to right)—Nicholas Trahadas, Treasurer; Theodore F. Constant, President; Father Constantine Bithos, Priest; Peter Mathews, Vice President; Nick Vourlas, Secretary.

SECOND ROW (left to right)—James Kukunas, George N. Bacalis, Angelo Christie, Leo N. Michael, Constantine P. Rogis.

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IN MEMORY OF

DEMETRIOS GALANIDES

BY A FRIEND



CHOIR

FIRST ROW—Connie Ann Nichols, Jimmie Dalonas, Irene Constantine, Bessie Kotarides, Aspasia Georgiades, Katy Manuel, Angelina Constantine, Stella Stylianou, Pela Jenkins.

SECOND ROW—Matilda Giannoutsos, Nikki Christie, Tessie Kessaratos, Pattie Paris, Frances, Gretes, Vickie Nicholas, Helen Nichols, Dru Vourlas, Kyki Giannoutsos, Katherine Christold, Helen Brock, Hope Christie.

TOP ROW—Nicky Koutroulias, Steve Houmis, Tom Christold, Chris Christie, Pete Nicholas, Arthur Kanakis, Dean Rogis, John Catherine, Tim Mathas, James Gretes, Mickey Pahnno, Tom Vourlas.

HISTORY OF THE CHOIR

The history of the church choir descends back to 1933. Though it is impossible to trace back to the person, or persons, who conceived the idea of organizing a church choir, it can be said that one of the first organizers was Mr. Harry Frank, who also became the first choir director. Mr. Chris P. Christopoulos, then President of the Church, was also very instrumental in the organization of the first choir.

Enough enthusiastic parishioners came forth to volunteer their services and talents, and under the leadership of Mr. Frank, the church choir was born in Norfolk. The first choir robes were sewed by the members of the choir, in black and white. An old organ was purchased by the

congregation for \$60 from the Burroughs Memorial Church, and was placed in the balcony of the old church on Freemason Street, where the choir was then positioned.

In spite of the new sound and spirit, the new choir radiated to the church and its parishioners; there came from somewhat less spirited quarters, criticism and objection to the formation of a choir. This innuendo was heard from a circle of parishioners advocating tradition and conservatism within the realms of the church and its services. With the passing of time, however, the opponents of the formation of a choir soon retreated to the elements of change and progress.

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GREEK SCHOOL PTA

HISTORY OF THE CHOIR (Continued)

Several months after the creation of the choir, the President of the Church, Mr. Christopoulos, and the church board, decided to call on Mr. Chris Jakovides in Detroit, Michigan, to come to Norfolk and direct the choir and conduct Greek School classes.

After a successful two years in Norfolk as choir director, Mr. Jakovides accepted a post in another city, thus resigning his position here, and leaving Norfolk with no choir director. For the next six years, the choir functioned only at Easter, and other important holidays under the leadership of various chanters of the Church.

When Mr. Christopoulos returned as president of the community in 1940, he proceeded to hire Mr. John Chrysostom, from out of town, to function as choir director and school master. Under this new leadership, the choir made great strides in its choral development. The choir grew in size and quality and was soon to be regarded as one of the best Greek Orthodox Church choirs in the South.

Unfortunately, in 1946, Mr. Chrysostom chose to resign his position here to enter another profession in another city. Upon this turn of events, the Church Board appointed Miss Aspasia Patsouris, upon the recommendation of Mr. Chrysostom, to assume the leadership of the now expanding choir.

Using great delicacy of style and manner, Miss Patsouris successfully trained and developed the choir into using many choral techniques still used today.

Miss Athena Bassil took over the directorship of the choir in 1951 after Miss Patsouris married and could no longer direct. After a brief tenure as choir leader, Miss Bassil resigned and Mr. Jim Dalonas was summoned to temporarily lead the choir until another permanent director could be appointed. The appointment of Miss Peggy Davis, as permanent choir director, was made in mid-1952. After a short duration as choir leader, Miss Davis relinquished the position to returning Miss Patsouris.

Responding to her pressing family obligations, Miss Patsouris resigned and Mr. James Stamos was hired by the Board of

Trustees to lead the choir in 1954. Mr. Stamos was director for six years until 1960 when Mr. Dalonas was asked to return (as choir director) after a nine years absence. In 1961, Mr. Tim Mathas was appointed to assist Mr. Dalonas as the Assistant Choir Director.

In the early years of the choir, the liturgical hymnal arrangements of Nicholas Roubanis and John Sakelarides were utilized by the choir until 1940. In that year, Mr. Chrysostom introduced the Greek Byzantine Liturgical Hymnal arranged by George Anastassion. This music has been the basic arrangement used by the choir since that time. In recent years, however, a more vivid and intense interpretation of the ancient Byzantine tones has been arranged by Frank Desby of the Los Angeles Greek Cathedral. The choir has adopted this new arrangement and will perform it sometime in the near future.

Of course, the endless efforts and loyalty by the various church organists contributed to the success of the choir and cannot (for a moment) be overlooked. The first of these fine ladies was Penelope Bessias who was ably followed in order by Frances Hatzopoulos, Eva Anthoulides Barber, Bess Hatzopoulos, Hope Christopoulos, Nikki Forchas, and to the present time organists, Connie Ann Nichols and Kiki Giannoutsos.

The choir has, on many occasions, extended its talents and abilities outside the borders of our Church and community, with personal appearances and engagements. Several years ago, the choir was invited by a Negro Baptist Congregation on Bute Street to sing a program of selected hymns. In observance of National Brotherhood Week, the choir has sung at the neighboring Talbot Park Baptist Church, and at the Beth El Temple on 15th Street and Colonial Avenue. In 1957, the College of William and Mary in Norfolk, featured the choir in one of its series of Fine Arts programs produced on a local television station. A locally produced Greek News and Music radio program had on several occasions, invited the choir to sing.

In addition to singing at regular Sunday services and special holiday services, the church choir has performed at wedding

HISTORY OF THE CHOIR (Continued)

ceremonies of our church, when especially requested to do so. The choir has only sung at one funeral service during its entire history and that was for the funeral of our beloved Father Papachristou.

In celebration of the 350th Anniversary of the Landing in Jamestown, the Greek Church in Norfolk joined the other Greek Churchers of Virginia in an Eastern Orthodox Pilgrimage to Jamestown. The choir was part of a mass choir formed to sing in an outdoor service presided by a Bishop and many Priests.

During the last two years, the choir has greatly supported the Greek Community in

Newport News in the celebration of their annual Epiphany Services in January. The participation of the Norfolk Greek Church choir in these mentioned activities, and many others not mentioned, has through the years, greatly enhanced the position of our Church as one of the finest of its kind on the East Coast.

Today, the choir continues to build itself to greater heights than in the past, especially since the creation, in recent years of the Junior Youth Choir, where young people are trained to fill the positions of older choir members who retire from the choir for various reasons.



GEORGE C. CHRISTOPOULOS
FIRST PRESIDENT OF OUR CHURCH



THE ACOLYTES

FIRST ROW (left to right)—William Kassinos, Anthony Damalas, Anthony Votsis, Peter Gretes, Andrew Damalas.

SECOND ROW (left to right)—Stathe Koutroulias, Harry Kypros, Peter Galanides, Thom Vourlas, Christ Kypros, Anthony Kouzi.

THIRD ROW (left to right)—Michael Evans, Dean Barnett, Father Bithos, Jamie Christopher, Dennis Taflambas.

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MR. AND MRS. THEODORE FRANK CONSTANT
AND DAUGHTERS



SENIOR GOYA — OFFICERS AND BOARD

FIRST ROW—Effie Maroulis, Athena Pallas, Connie Ann Nichols.

SECOND ROW—Jimmie Dalonas, Johnny Catherines, Savas Constantinou.

HISTORY OF G. O. Y. A.

The Youth of our Community, prior to the year of 1952, functioned in several separate bodies, among which was the Gamma Beta Phi fraternity and the Sigma Epsilon Delta Sorority. However, these groups were not filling the exact need of the youth. In the fall of 1952, following the example and leadership of the late Archbishop, His Eminence Michael, the then priest of our community, the late Very Reverend Father Joachim Papa-christou, met with the youth and organized the local chapter of the National organization of the Greek Orthodox Youth of America.

Following this meeting the election of officers was held and the following became the first officers of G. O. Y. A.: President,

Miss Bessie Hatzopoulos; Vice Pres., Miss Peggy Davis; Treasurer, Tony Jordan, Jr.; Secretary, Miss Jeanne Polizos. These people, with those who have followed, have led G. O. Y. A. in its aims and purposes, which are to perpetuate the Orthodox Faith, to promote an interest in civil and community life and to create a program of social and athletic activities for the youth.

G. O. Y. A. has accomplished some of these aims to a greater degree than others. With the example of our fathers and forefathers in the past fifty years, we will strive to continue in their footsteps to perpetuate the "One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church" of our Lord and Savior, Christ Jesus.

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MR. AND MRS. PETER K. BABALAS



JUNIOR GOYA

FIRST ROW (left to right)—Hope Christie, Jo Ann Gretes, Helen Ann Nichols, Connie Stylianou, Sophie Christie, Chrissy Kouzi, Nickie Christie.

SECOND ROW—Katheren Christold, Helen Brock, Patricia Peris, Linda Pandilides, Kiki Gianoutsis, Helen Skaltsounis, Stassa Trahalis, Dru Vourlas, Vickie Nicholas.

THIRD ROW—Nicky Koutroulias, John Gretes, John Gretes, George Gretes.

FOURTH ROW—Stathe Koutroulias, Tony Kouzi, Tommy Christold, Pete Nicholas, George Christie, Chris Kyrus, Steve Houmis.

Congratulations

May our Heavenly Father Bless and
Guide Us as He Has Guided You
These Past Fifty Years.

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JR. AND SR. GOYA



GREEK SCHOOL

FIRST ROW (left to right)—Lewis Georges, George Ladikos, Stamatina Soterales, Kostas Ladikos, Mary Lymbouris, Jimmie Bassil, Louis Spellos, Aphrodite Spellos, Irene Stephanitsis.

SECOND ROW (left to right)—Andy Damalas, Athena Ladikos, Mary Mousouris, Billy Kassinos, Vivian Riris, Mrs. Patsalides, Athena Riris, Tony Damalas, Joanne Matiatis, Nick Stephanitsis, Helen Perros, Thom Vourlas.

THIRD ROW (left to right)—Mark Mousouris, Katherine Christold, Stamatoula Cremedas, Dean Barnett, Aleca Bassil, Nick Koutroulias, Dru Vourlas, Paul Baker, Nikki Christie, Peter Gretes, Anastaisa Kessarates.

TOP ROW (left to right)—Frances Gretes, Matilda Giannoutsos, Anne Constant, Akis Christodolou, Hope Christie, Helen Brock, Patricia Peris, Stathis Koutroulias, Marjorie Manos, Chris Kypros.

NOT SHOWN IN PICTURE—Tony Kouzis, James Christopher, Van Christopher, John Manos, Patsy Mousouris, George N. Georgiades, George Lymbouris, George Chrysostomides, Tenon Chrysostomides, Elaine Mandis, George Kypros, Harry Kypros, Athena Pappas, Christos Stephanitsis.

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MR. AND MRS. AUGUSTUS ANNINOS

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE DAVIS

MR. AND MRS. DENNIS ANNINOS

GREEK SCHOOL HISTORY

The first Greek School in Norfolk was taught by Mrs. John Santos in the year 1910, in her own home on Bank Street and later, as enrollment increased, school was held in a rented room on Bank Street. There were approximately 15 to 20 children enrolled, and school was held daily from 4 to 6 p. m. The children would either walk to school or ride the streetcars. They spoke in different dialects, as their parents came from different parts of Greece or it's islands. So, in a sense, the first Greek School was a melting pot of the various dialects. Mrs. Santos was born in Constantinople but was reared and educated in Piraeus, Greece and taught there before coming to the United States. At various intervals from 1910 to 1920, school was disbanded and Mrs. Santos taught at various homes as a private teacher.

In 1921, Mr. George Kyriaze held classes at Charlotte and Bank Streets which is the present school administration building. Classes were later shifted to the Holt Street School. Father Avlonites taught the following year. School was resumed at the Greek Church on Freemason Street and the first class was held downstairs in the church proper in the pews nearest the pot-bellied stove. All children were in the same classroom.

In 1923, the Church of Annunciation, hired Miss Alexandra Diodorides (now Mrs. Demetrios Bassil) who came to this country from France. She was educated in Zapion, Constantinople and Paris, France and taught in Greece for six years prior to coming here.

Mrs. Dennis Anninos, who also had just arrived in this country, having completed courses of studies at Arsakion, taught for the Vasillkon school, Holy Trinity on Church and Freemason Streets over the National Bank of Commerce. Following the

March of Mothers, determined to unite, the two schools were resumed in the balcony of the Church of Annunciation.

Miss Evanthia Souli, a member of a heroic family from Ionanina, Greece taught for one year in 1925. In 1926, Miss Lazaridou, a sister of the Metropolitan of Grevenon, Macedonia who was slain by the Bulgarians, taught, followed by Thomas Efthemiades in 1927. From 1928 to 1931, Father George Diodorides, Priest of our church, taught the school. Enrollment increased considerably and Mrs. John Santos was hired to assist Father Diorides.

Father Vambakos was the teacher in 1931. He was a high school student in Constantinople with Athenagoras. He was very pleased to find the children so well advanced and prepared, and he was able to put a group through first year high school in the Greek language. In 1932, Father Messarachaki from Crete came in for less than a year. Studies were continued under Mr. C. Jakovidis, psalti and teacher, who was educated at the University of Athens and remained for about two and a half years. Between 1935 and 1938, Father Pavlo headed the school and his nieces, Catherine and Georgia, assisted in teaching. During 1938 and 1939, Mrs. Bassil resumed duties of teaching, assisted by Mrs. Katina Patsouras. In 1940, John Chrysostom taught the school and directed the choir that exists today. He remained for six years. Between 1946 and 1947, John Theofilakos and Father Ahladas taught for a short while.

In the fall of 1947, Mrs. Angelo Pat-salides, who was educated in Cyprus and had previously taught in New York City, began teaching. Classes were held in John Marshall, Blair and Maury Schools. In October of 1954, before the completion of our present church the school moved to its present location.



SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

FIRST ROW—Mary Gretes, Helen Vassos, Andrea Kokinis, Father Bithos, Athena Pallas, Ethel Constantine, Virginia Elliott, Mary Vourlas.

SECOND ROW—Vee Bithos, Pauline Trahalas, Katherine Mandis, Effie Maroulis, Savas Constantinou, Larkin Barnett.

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HELLENIC WOMAN'S CLUB



HISTORY OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Upon request of the Archdiocese, the first Sunday School began in 1913 with approximately 30 children. Classes were held in upstairs rooms of the Church of Annunciation on Freemason Street. The first four Sunday School teachers were Mrs. Connie Christopoulos Georges, Mrs. Penny Christopoulos, Mrs. Helen Tsoukatos Nichols and Mrs. Artemis Vasilian Patterson. Many problems arose, such as the Archdiocese sending very little in the way of materials and instruction. All that was available were a few pamphlets and small Icons, and these soon vanished. The children of that period were energetic and uninhibited, to say the least. To supplement this lack of material, teachers went to Sunday Schools of other denominations for material as a guide for Orthodox lessons. The first stage of the Sunday School was in session only one year because the parents and people of the community disapproved, as they didn't understand the need for a Sunday School.

Unfortunately, Sunday School was discontinued in Norfolk for about nine years, and although other efforts were made to reorganize, they failed. The children attended church and learned the Orthodox faith from their parents. In 1940, Father Pinatsis began efforts to start Sunday School classes again, and they were held in one classroom, with 25 children. As attendance increased, other classrooms which were used as storage space, were needed, so teachers went in with paint, brooms, etc. and cleaned. Many of you probably remember the gas burner and old school desks.

In 1945, Father Pinatsis began instruction and lectures for the teachers. Father Stamos continued this practice when he came in 1946. The teachers came to church every Saturday to sweep floors and dust desks. Attendance increased to 75 children, by 1947.

Helen Kanaskis, a teacher since 1940, became director of the Sunday School in 1950. Working closely with the Father Ahladas and Father Akim Papachristou, the Sunday School became a very permanent part of the Greek Orthodox Church. Attendance increased to 150 and in order to encourage the children to come to

church, arrangements were made for a bus to pick these children up from their homes each Sunday. Parents soon began coming regularly to church to take their children home.

After our community moved to the new church in 1955, the Sunday School department began extensive plans under the direction of Father Anthony Pappas to further the education of our young people in the Orthodox faith. The classes were divided into age groups and lessons were planned at the level of the class. Attendance grew rapidly and as a result, the two new classrooms that had been built became inadequate. To overcome this situation, two robe rooms, the teachers's office, social hall, and the Priest's office were used to meet this need for the 200 children that were coming regularly to church. It soon became apparent that a new class should be formed, as we had to provide for 35 to 40 small children ranging from the ages of 1 to 4 years old. The nursery was started by Mrs. Kanakis with the help of 10 mothers who alternated in teaching the small children. This encouraged the young parents to return to church.

Father Pappas worked energetically for the Sunday School. Books and materials were provided by the Archdiocese, along with visual aid material such as film strips and flannel graphs that were purchased and added to the regular lesson. Nursery books, geared for the small children, were used to help them understand their lessons. To further stimulate and hold the interest of the children, many projects and programs were planned, such as the annual Sunday School picnic in City Park, Christmas and Halloween parties, three communion breakfasts held on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter Day. Films were shown to the entire Sunday School department on special holidays, and the annual presentation in June when Bibles and pins were awarded the children with perfect attendance records. Each summer, two teachers were sent to St. Basil's Academy to receive instruction and return with information which was incorporated into the regular weekly lessons.

When our new community center was built, three new classrooms were on the

blue print, and they greatly eased the crowded conditions in the Sunday School. Attendance had grown to 250 regularly attending children.

In June 1959, Mrs. Kanakis resigned as director of the Sunday School. She had given 20 devoted years to the church, working closely with the Priests that had been in our community. Teachers who worked with her during those years honored her by giving a dinner and presenting her with an engraved Sterling Silver Candelabra and Candle Sticks.

In October of 1958, Father Constantine Bithos became our Priest. He was aware of the program already begun and the Sunday School curriculum remained in tact. New methods were introduced, primarily within the teaching staff itself. Teachers were required to keep a notebook, in detail, according to a required outline for each age group. One of the small rooms was converted to a supply room where supplies, materials and books for research were on file. Lessons, projects and visual aid materials were assigned to the teachers. On October 18, 1960, registration day and open house was planned for parents. All Sunday School material was displayed, awards were presented and our Sunday School season started. As the notebooks were being compiled, the religious director and Priest worked diligently

for correction and improvement. This program is still in effect and we have another one in the making so that our children will receive complete coverage of both the old and new testament, catechism, sacraments, creed, Bible study and the study of altar and vestments.

On this, our 50th Anniversary year, the Sunday School is growing both in size and endeavor. We now have 10 classes and three departments. In the age group 2 thru 6 we have 92 registered children, in group 7 thru 12 we have 125 registered children, in group 13 thru 15 we have 69 registered children, making a total of 185 with steady attendance.

Five classrooms are used, one robe room, three classes in the social hall and our teens meet in the community center lobby. We have many objectives in mind for the present and future. Our aim is to teach your children their Greek Orthodox faith and to instill in them the love of their church. Once they fully understand what it our Church lies in the hands of these children, surely find the way to God. The future of our Church lies in the hands of these children. Their needs are great and our job is big. Only with the help of God can we teach the Christian principles in Sunday School and in our home, so that our Greek Orthodox Church can continue.

SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF 1960 - 1961

REV. FR. CONSTANTINE BITHOS.....	General Director
PAULINE TRAHALAS.....	Religious Director
ETHEL CONSTANTINE.....	Project Director
SAVY CONSTANTINO.....	Material Director

TEACHERS

Ethel Constantine	Katherine Mandis
Vee Bithos	Teddy Marty
Savy Constantino	(Replacing Iris Pappas)
Virginia Elliott	Athena Pallas
Ann Georges	Pauline Trahalas
Mary Gretes	Stasa Trahalas
Stacia Mandaleris	Helen Vassos
(Replacing Irene and Florence Pavlides)	Mary Vourlas

ASSISTANTS

Helen Anargyros	Effie Maroulis
Larkin Barnett	Joan Savopoulos
Peggy Caravas	Georgianna Willis
Andrea Kokinos	



GREEK SCHOOL P. T. A. BOARD

FIRST ROW—Mrs. Vasileios Bassil, Secretary; Mrs. Nick Vourlas, President; Mrs. Angelo Patsalides, Teacher; Larkin Barnett, Vice President; Mrs. Robert H. Snowden, Treasurer.

BOARD MEMBERS—Father Bithos, Mr. Theodore F. Constant, Mrs. Theodore F. Constant, Mrs. George Koutroulis, Mrs. Vasilios Giannoutsos, Mrs. Elias Cremedas, Mrs. James Perros, Mr. Angelo Christie, Mr. Charles Kypros, Mr. Bobby Damalas.

P. T. A.

The Greek School P. T. A. was formed on April 27th, 1958 and is still in it's infancy. The membership numbered 50 parents and Mrs. Angelo Patsalides was the Greek School teacher as she is at present.

The first elected board was composed of: Mary Kypros, Helen Cremedas, Stella Damalas, Demitra Gretes, Helen Christie, Dr. Nicos Georgiades, Steve Carvros, James Houmis, Marcus Peris and Virginia Rogis.

Annual events of the P. T. A. are the celebration of Greek Letters Week, Greek Independence Day, and a Christmas program.

The P. T. A. was instrumental in bringing to Norfolk an exhibition of Byzantine Art from May 17th through June 7th, 1959, which was shown at the main gallery of the Museum of Art.

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MR. AND MRS. N. E. GRETAKIS

THE HELLENIC WOMAN'S CLUB—PRESIDENTS

MRS. MOSCA SANTOS	1922
MRS. A. G. KRITSELIS	1922-1923
MRS. HARRY KARANICHOLAS	1923-1925
MRS. CHRIS THEMIDES	1925-1926
MISS HELEN CHRISTOPOULOS	1926-1929
MRS. MOSCA SANTOS	1929-1931
MRS. D. L. BASSIL	1931-1932
MRS. CONSTANTINE PATSOURAS	1932-1934
MRS. NICHOLAS PSIMAS	1934-1935
MRS. SAM DOUROS	1935-1936
MRS. CHRIS CHRISTOPOULOS	1936-1937
MRS. GREGORY DRAGAS	1937-1938
MRS. D. L. BASSIL	1938-1939
MRS. CHRIS CHRISTOPOULOS	1939-1941
MRS. CONSTANTINE PATSOURAS	1941-1943
MRS. NICHOLAS BACALIS	1943-1944
MRS. ACRIVI ANNINOS	1944-1946
MRS. THEODORE BAKER	1946-1948
MRS. NICHOLAS J. GEORGES	1948-1950
MRS. GREGORY DRAGAS	1950-1952
MRS. MARY KOPASSIS	1952-1954
MRS. ANDREW NICHOLS	1954-1956
MRS. THOMAS LIRA	1956-1958
MRS. PETER BABALAS	1958-1960
MRS. EMMANUEL GAVALLAS	1960-1962



NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS AND BOARD OF THE HELLENIC WOMAN'S CLUB (1960-1961)

LEFT TO RIGHT—Mrs. Gus Gretes, second vice-president; Mrs. Joe Mandaleris, first vice-president; Mrs. Bobby Damalas, recording secretary; Miss Athena Coutavas, Treasurer.

SECOND ROW—Mrs. Philip Trahadas, corr. secretary; Mrs. Peter Collias, Board Member; Mrs. Emanuel Gavallas, President; Mrs. Chris Lymbouris, Miss Mary Balasca, and Mrs. Nicholas Papafil, board members. Not shown in picture, Mrs. George J. Georges, board member.

HELLENIC WOMAN'S CLUB

To give a true picture of the growth of the Hellenic Woman's Club, we must go back to its humble origin in 1910, when Mrs. Mosca Santos called on Mrs. George Christopoulos and they decided to form a benevolent club. As a token of encouragement, Mr. George Christopoulos gave them a donation of \$20.00 with which to start their treasury. They called on Mrs. Archie Padis, Mrs. A. Kavadias, and Mrs. K. Arhakos—and these five women formed the nucleus of the Club. Soon thereafter Mrs. George Efstathios, Mrs. Constantine

Nofplot, Mrs. John Gretes, and Mrs. Anna Costis joined the group.

Their purpose was to give assistance to wayfarers and indigent families, and welcome new families into the community. Mrs. Santos was chosen as president (and served for many years). The name "Miroforai" was adopted, and dues were established at 25c per month. They in turn gradually welcomed Mrs. Frank Constant, Mrs. Peter Gretes, Mrs. Tom Anargyros,

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NICK AND CONNIE GEORGES

RELIGION AND EDUCATION ARE THE FOUNDATION OF OUR SOCIETY.
SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Mrs. A. Doukas, Mrs. John Tsoukatos and others into the club.

In 1911, the Hellenic community had rented Christ and St. Luke's Church. The first gift of the club to the church was made in 1914 when a much needed, large wooden cross was purchased. This marked the beginning of the fulfillment of woman's innate desire to serve her church. As the community and club grew, successively larger contributions were made over the years.

The years 1914 to 1918 brought in the families of James Proimos, Charles Constine, George Christodoulakis, Matthew Vergakis, James Balasco, Philip Trahadias, Mrs. Olga Vergakis, Mrs. Nicholas Bacalis, Mrs. Sam Douros, Mrs. Angelo Karnezis, Mrs. Harry Karanicholas, Mrs. John Zagoras and others.

With the end of World War I and the closing of the munitions factory in Hopewell in 1918, there was a large influx of families into the community. From then on they arrived so rapidly, that in fear of omitting a single name of the many women who came and contributed so much to the community in the intervening years, it is regretful that their names cannot be recorded.

In 1921 the activities of the club became broader, and an appeal from war-ravished Greece for aid to its widows and orphans led to the first formal benefit. A musical and dance was held on June 22, at the Armory Hall which netted \$742.47 for the cause.

In October of 1922, with 71 members present, the club was organized formally, elections were held by secret ballot, and a constitution was drawn up, voted upon and adopted. Unfortunately, all formal records of the club's activities from 1922 to 1929 have been lost with the exception of a ledger which contains the membership roll from 1922 to 1943. They are significant of the first eight pages of this ledger which contain the original handwritten constitution. Shortly thereafter it was revised, printed and distributed to each member. It is also interesting to note in this book, the economic conditions of this period as reflected in the fluctuation of dues from a high of \$6.00 to a low of \$1.50 per year, and the rise and fall of membership from a high of 90 to a low of 19.

Highlights of the period from 1922 to 1929 have been garnered from recollections, scrap books and newspaper clippings. Numerous dances, dramas ("O Horos tou Zallongou", "E Sklava", "Esme", "Nyx Eleimosinis", etc.) and drives were held to raise funds for various projects. Among these are included the purchase of the Manoualia, the heating plant (\$2,000), the crystal chandelier (\$1,500) for the church, and other renovations and improvements to both the church and the school.

For several years, with political feelings running so high in Greece, it was inevitable that the feud would spread across the Atlantic and affect the Greek communities throughout the United States. As a consequence, by 1923 a severe schism had developed in Norfolk which split the church, school, and club into two factions. One of the proudest achievements of the women of this community is that it was through their initiative and determined efforts that this unhappy situation was brought to a culmination. On March 20, 1924, an "Enosis Dance" was held which thrashed out the last vestige of political differences and harmony was once again restored in the entire community.

On March 3, 1929, the club was reorganized at a special meeting with 29 members present, at which time elections were held, the constitution was revised, and the club name was changed from the original "Miroforai" to "Zoodohou Pigi". It was decided that special church services would be held annually in the morning of the feast day, to be followed by a dance in the evening. This has become traditional through the years.

Fortunately, from this period on, the club is in possession of records which show its expanding interests, activities, and projects too innumerable to list fully. Dances and picnics were held, and plays ("Stella Violanti", "E Nymphi tou Vounou", "Queen of Flowers", etc.) continued as the most popular and successful fund-raising projects. In this period of the early thirties, despite the depression, assistance to the church and school continued at an accelerated pace—highlights of which were the commissioning of an artist to paint the icon of "The Zoodohos Pigi", the purchase of choir robes, and cash con-

tributions for the painting and general upkeep of the church and school.

First reference to a Vasilopita celebration was found in 1931, which became an annual affair and later it became traditional that the proceeds from this affair be donated to St. Basil's Orphanage.

In 1933 the club opened its first savings account with a deposit of \$100.00 taken from its checking account. Further progress and growth was shown by more active participation in civic affairs, namely, cooperation in the city-wide Mardi Gras, and annual contributions to the Joy Fund and the American Red Cross.

In November of 1939, with war raging in Greece, the club — in cooperation with the Church Board — organized a Greek War Relief Drive on a city-wide basis. Headquarters, led and staffed by club members, were set up in the Thomas Nelson Hotel. The club stripped its treasury of funds and donated \$800.00 to this great endeavor. The sum of \$10,000 was sent directly to Greece before such a drive was organized on a national scale. A total of over \$20,000 was raised for this cause.

Through the ensuing years, although the club continued its usual assistance to the community, its efforts were mainly concentrated on the war effort. Dinners, dances, and picnics were given which raised tremendous sums for "Fanella tou Stratiou", Bundles for Britain, Greek War Relief and the American Red Cross.

In 1941, as another project, a drive was instituted to collect clothes for Greece. A committee canvassed the city, store by store, and collected an enormous amount of clothing, shoes, food—and even drugs, which were sent directly to Greece.

Three years later, such a drive was organized on a national scale and headquarters were established locally at the Community Center on Holt Street (later moved to the Armory) for the collection, assortment and bundling of clothes. A total of 14,266 articles of clothing were collected, mended and forwarded to National Headquarters.

During this period all members were involved in some form of volunteer work. Some worked at the main Red Cross headquarters and the Aircraft Warning

Service, others worked feverishly in the club's own sewing and knitting center set up in a room in the church where five sewing machines were kept in operation daily for a period of two years.

In 1943 aside from the war efforts, the first Bazaar was held in the church school room which realized a profit of \$800.00 of which \$500.00 was donated to the church for its New Building Fund.

During and following these war years, once again there was a tremendous influx of new families into the community. Now with war tensions easing up, the club began to broaden its activities. In 1944, aware of its obligations to the youth of the community, a teen-age auxiliary was organized. This not only sought to provide wholesome entertainment in an Hellenic environment but to insure the continuing growth of the club and to prepare another generation to assume its responsibilities.

In this same year the club's English name was changed from the Greek Ladies Benevolent Association to the Hellenic Woman's Club. The welfare program expanded with increasing demands for aid both from here and Greece. Among other things, contributions were sent to orphanages in New York and Greece and large quantities of food supplies to the T. B. Sanatorium in Greece.

During these years, the club continued to entertain the Royal Greek Navy which visited the city intermittently during and following the war years.

A fresh enthusiasm for the work of the church—and a closer affiliation with the Church Board—resulted in 1946 when the lot on Granby Street was purchased for the new building.

From 1946 until 1953, with the prospect of the realization of a long standing dream, an ever-increasing number of fund raising affairs were held. The play "Peirasmos" (\$1,117), and an appealing variety of dances, such as Hill-billy, Masquerade, Beach Club, Valentine, etc., boosted funds in the treasury.

In 1948, a prayer composed by Mrs. Acrivi Anninos was adopted by the club. The welfare program and assistance to the church and school continued at a steady pace. The club began to receive city-wide recognition for its in-

creased activities in civic affairs, such as the start of a Greek library in the U. S. Marine Hospital in 1947, the first annual participation in the March of Dimes in 1949, and in the Doll Division of the city's Christmas Toy Shop program. The doll project was carried out so successfully that in the following year the club assumed full sponsorship of this division on a city-wide scale.

Through the years, the men appreciated the women's contributions to the community, but they had not fully realized how much the Hellenic Woman's Club had grown until they were invited to "Husband's Night" in 1949. In 1950, inaugurating the now traditional "Husband's Night" at the installation meetings, in addition to a dinner, a special program—commemorating the golden anniversary of the arrival of the first woman in the Greek community—was presented in the form of a fabulous fashion show depicting the life and fashions of that period.

Now began the most rewarding years and fruitful activities of the club's existence, with the construction of the new building in 1953. After all these years of meeting in the church proper, members' homes, old church school room, rented lodge rooms, tea rooms, etc., at long last, the club was coming home.

With a meeting room and kitchen of their own, the members would no longer feel like gypsies, carrying their hot plates, tea cups, and refreshments in baskets from meeting hall to meeting hall as they had done in the early years.

With enthusiasm running at fever pitch throughout the community the Club again stripped its treasury of its combined accounts and donated \$6,000.00 to the initial drive.

Aware of the gigantic obligations which faced the community, the club decided to start a Building Fund Account. As a primer for this fund, Silver Coin Teas were given monthly. First in members' homes and in later years in the social hall of the church. These teas have continued to the present time and have added up to a sizeable amount over the years.

Never in the history of the community had such enthusiasm, cooperation and generosity been shown as when a Bazaar was planned in 1954 as the FIRST affair to be

given in the new building for the benefit of the Building Fund Account. Never before had the men and children of the community labored so hard to assure its success. Despite the mud, snow and tremendous handicaps to be overcome in the incompleting building, the grand total of \$5,126.99 was realized at this affair, of which sum \$5,000.00 was immediately turned over to the Church Finance Committee to meet pressing expenses.

The success of this Bazaar not only in financial returns, but in the true spirit of brotherhood which it created, resulted in this becoming an annual affair for the benefit of the Building Fund Account. It has also come to be recognized as the most outstanding affair of this type throughout the city.

Demands on the club increased and so did its fund-raising activities—which included: Freezer Raffle 1954, Cavalier Beach Club Dance 1954, Surf Club Dance 1955, Second and Third Annual Bazaar (1955 and 1956).

Proceeds from the above projects through December of 1956 totaled \$25,700.00 in cash was given to the church to be applied against the church loan. An additional \$1,410.68 was spent for the church in the purchase of draperies, vacuum cleaner, choir robes, etc.

During this period the club's civic, welfare and social activities not only continued, but included several new projects, among which was the adoption in 1954 of an orphan boy in Piraeus, Greece through the Christian Children's Fund, Inc. This adoption has continued yearly up to the present time. A special clothing drive was held for the earthquake victims of the Ionian Islands: a \$100.00 donation was given to the new William & Mary College Library, and another donation was sent to the "Patriarchion" in Constantinople for assistance to the victims of the Turkish riots.

Expanding further in the field of special drives the club sponsored the entire City Multiple Sclerosis Drive.

Ever on the alert for new ways and means to increase the club's funds and thus meet the increasing calls for assistance in civic, welfare and church projects, the club held its first Bake Sale in 1956 which raised \$106.00. This takes place an-

nually prior to the Easter holidays, and so popular has it become that it receives city-wide support.

Another innovation which was featured at the 1956 Bazaar was the introduction and sale of the Club's cook book "Cook With Us", written and compiled by members of the organization, which ultimately cleared \$1,677.21.

An outstanding note in 1956 is the establishment of an annual \$300.00 Scholarship award, given to a worthy High School or College student of Greek descent. The first Scholarship Fund Dance, replacing the club's annual "Zoodochos Pigi" (Feast Day) Dance, raised \$1,307.70 to establish the Scholarship Fund Account. Since then, as finances permitted, on two occasions, scholarships amounting to \$600.00 were awarded.

A memorable date—December 1957—marks at once, an end and a beginning in a phase of the club history. The end—on that date the club donated \$4,000.00 to pay off the balance of the church debt and enjoyed the privilege of burning the mortgage note. The beginning—a new milestone in the community—the construction of the Hellenic Community Center. This called for renewed vigor to meet our obligations.

To this end new features were added to the annual bazaars. With adequate space and with a fully equipped kitchen now at the club's disposal, the dinners which had proved so popular a feature of the bazaars, are now held on two evenings and in addition, a luncheon-fashion show is given on the first day.

Raffles on a much larger scale were undertaken — sale of raffle tickets for a Renault car at the 1959 Bazaar, a Stereophonic Set at the 1960 Bazaar. In addition in this same period, a Cadillac raffle at \$100.00 a chance realized the grand total of \$6,917.50. For the larger part of this profit the club is indebted to Mr. Theodore Constant, President of the community, who won the raffle and chose in lieu of the car to accept its cash value of \$4,200.00, which amount he immediately donated back to the club.

From the proceeds of the above affairs, the club completely equipped the kitchen in the Hellenic Community Center at a cost of \$12,000.00, and donated \$11,917.50 in cash to the church.

Participation in civic and welfare activities during these years continued to

flourish and included: A Tea given in 1957 which raised \$250.00 for the destitute families of victims of the Cyprian cause, and honored the Cyprian Bishop who visited here at that time. Besides the usual cash donations to the Joy Fund, club members began annual assistance in the distribution of gifts at the City Joy Fund Center. A cash donation was sent to the City's Girl Camp Fund. Expanding its assistance to St. Basil's Academy through the proceeds of the annual "Vasilopita" celebration, the club in 1958, in lieu of its usual exchange of gifts among members, at Christmas, began to send gifts of much needed items to the Orphanage. A cash donation and gifts were sent to the Volunteer Service of the Veterans' Hospital at Kecoughtan.

The foregoing history presents only a brief picture of the growth of the Hellenic Woman's Club, as a culmination of the dreams of a group of farsighted women in 1910.

It presents a picture mostly of its material accomplishments. However the spirit and enthusiasm of the loyal pioneer members, who have been the backbone and mainstay of the club and whose dedication through these many years has been unflagging, coupled with the tireless cooperation, the drive, the warmth and the helping hand of each member, regardless of age, deserve very special mention—for all these combined efforts have resulted in the success of the club's aims and purposes.

And now the chronological saga of the Golden Anniversary of the Hellenic Woman's Club activities comes to a close, happy in the knowledge that its future is bright and assured.

The heritage of the pioneer members' accomplishments has taken roots in the hearts of their descendants, and it has already been manifested in their keen interest, diligence, drive and participation in the club's activities. Together with the many newcomers to our community, they will carry on the high ideals and purposes of this great organization.

Yes, the future knows no bounds, it is indeed bright and full of promise for the continuance of the Hellenic Woman's Club activities.

Hellenic Woman's Club
History Committee:

Mrs. Peter Collias

Mrs. Nicholas Georges

Mrs. Paul Yeonas



TIDEWATER COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
SKICOAK DISTRICT — TROOP 193

FRONT ROW (left to right)—L. J. Miles, Franklin Stanfield, Andy Damalas, Harry Kypros, Larry Zedd, Jimmie Constantine, Tony Damalas, Chris Kypros, Billy Kassinos.

SECOND ROW (left to right)—Billy Jernigan, Larkin Barnett, Angelo Constantine, Nicholas E. Gretakis, Peter S. Pappas, Tony Kehayas, Anthony Kehayas, Jr., Robert Gabriel, Roy Reel.

THIRD ROW (left to right)—Henry Biggerstaff, James Biggerstaff, Dean Barnett, Ronnie Montaldo, Juris Lazins, Michael Loizides, John Newton, Melvin Paris.

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Mary Jane

BREAD



CYPRUS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

FIRST ROW (left to right)—Mrs. James Perros, Mrs. George Constantinides, Mrs. Gus Nichols, Mrs. Philip Tonis.

SECOND ROW (left to right)—George Nicholas, Angelo Christie, Bobby Damalas.

CYPRUS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

In July of 1959, between forty-five and fifty citizens of Greek extraction formed the Cyprus Association of Norfolk. The specific purpose of this association was to assist the people of our native land of Cyprus in their struggle for freedom. A sizable amount of money was collected and sent to the proper authorities to help alleviate the suffering of our brothers in Cyprus.

After four years of bitter and unequal struggle, the British Government recognized the legitimate rights of the Greek people on the Island and a cessation of hostilities was accomplished. This ended the need for a Cyprus Association and so our organization was disbanded.

It soon became apparent however, that the people of Cyprus were still in dire need of assistance. Four years of war had left its destructive mark on the entire island. The economy was disorganized, public education was in need of funds, and orphans and widows were crying for help. In short, a rehabilitation program was essential.

The present Cyprus Benevolent Society was born of this need. The accomplish-

ments of this new Society, now numbering one hundred forty members, have been indeed great, and they make each one of us proud to be a part of this community. In six short months we have:

1. Sent financial help to the Government of Cyprus.
2. Presented an extremely successful Independence Day Program.
3. Sponsored a community-wide luncheon. The proceeds were used to purchase material for the drapes now in the Sunday school rooms of our church.
4. Presented a patriotic program with Mr. Nickolas Samson, a true fighter for freedom, as guest speaker.

These accomplishments could not have been possible without the hard work and dedication shown by the Ladies of the Cyprus Society. To them, we extend our sincere thanks.

The Motto of the Cyprus Benevolent Society is: "For God, for Country, for family. With this in mind we can go forward with high hopes for a future of service and accomplishment."



OFFICERS AND BOARD OF ORDER OF AHEPA

FIRST ROW (left to right)—Bobby Damalas, Peter S. Pappas, Theodore Baker, George N. Bacalis.
SECOND ROW—Angelo Christie, Augustus Anninos, Nick E. Gretakis, George Gabriel, Vasileios Bassil.

ORDER OF AHEPA

On July 26, 1922, eight Greek-Americans, realizing the need for an organization which would help to combat ignorance and intolerance, met at the Greek Orthodox Church in Atlanta, Georgia and laid the foundation for the organization known as the A. H. E. P. A. (American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association). Within a few short years chapters of the AHEPA were organized in cities throughout the entire United States and in Canada.

On November 2, 1926, twenty-six Americans of Greek extraction met in the old Eagle Hall on Church Street and formed the Robert E. Lee Chapter No. 122 of Norfolk, Virginia. The first president of

the newly-formed Chapter was Brother Sam Douros and the first secretary was George Pahno who served in that capacity for almost a quarter of a century.

The Robert E. Lee Chapter has done much for the progress and advancement of the Greek Orthodox Church and Community of Norfolk, and was instrumental in helping to build the beautiful new Church on Granby Street.

The Robert E. Lee Chapter of AHEPA salutes the Greek Orthodox Church and Community on its Golden Anniversary and pledges its support for continued progress and prosperity.

CHARTER MEMBERS OF ROBERT E. LEE CHAPTER NO. 122

Sam Douros
George Pahno
George Christo
James Campos
Mike Pappas
Archie Padis
James Roufos

Louis Bahas
Nicholas Renesis
William Vakos
George Alexander
Manuel Proimos
James Collias
George C. Christopoulos

Chris Kaoudakis
Demetrios Bassil
John Kontopanos
Neophytos Kyrus
Demetrios Galanides
George Karanicholas
Christ Phylonis

Constantine Patsuras
Salvatore Patsurakis
George Patsurakis
Tom Anargyros
Louis Sarantis

PAST PRESIDENTS

Sam Douros
George Pahno
Anthony Votsis
Peter Forchas
Nick Asteris

Chris P. Christopoulos
George Christo
Demetrios Bassil
Paul Varelas
Nick Gretakis

Harry Kyrus
Augustus Anninos
Anthony Jordan
Angelo Constantine
John Angelson

Angelo Pappas
Vasilios Bassil
Peter S. Pappas
President, 1961



DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE — OFFICERS AND BOARD

FIRST ROW—Elaine Polizos, Tenna Gretes, Jennie Gretakis, Olga Bassil.

SECOND ROW—Tessie Tragaras, Dora Dalonas, Mary Vourlas, Virginia Rogis, Keeke Koutroulis, Frances Murray, Bessie Asteris.

DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

Early in 1956, the Princess Anne Chapter No. 284 of the Daughters of Penelope was established. Sister Madeline Kostopoulos was chosen as president, along with vice-president, Mary Galanides; secretary, Bess Hatzopoulos; and treasurer, Tena Yeonas. The charter members included:

Madeline Kostopoulos
 Mary Anargyros
 Stacey Anargyros
 Anna Angelson
 Grace Baker
 Olga Bassil
 Cleon Boyce
 Mary Canias
 Joanne Canias
 Diana Constance
 Chrysoulla Dioredes
 Katherine Economides
 Helen Galanides
 Mary Galanides
 Diana Gavallas
 Anna Gretes
 Demetra Gretes

Bess Hatzopoulos
 Madeline Kostopoulos
 Mary Anne Kyrus
 Athena Michaels
 Mary Michael
 Christine Minadakis
 Machi Nikiforos
 Della Paphites
 Iris Pappas
 Virginia Rogis
 Katy Skaltsounis
 Katherine Tolakis
 Pauline Trahalis
 Ann Vasilion
 Tena Yeonas

Since that time the Daughters have been active in sponsoring fund-raising dances for the Multiple Sclerosis Society, the Greek Orthodox Church and other civic charities. The sisters who have served as president since Sister Madeline Kostopoulos are as follows: Sisters Mary Galanides, Elaine M. Polizos, Iris G. Pappas, and Anna E. Gretes.

PALAION PATRON GERMANOS LODGE NO. 70 G. A. P. A.

The Gapa was organized here by G. Wallace, District Governor, of Greensboro, North Carolina, in 1926.

The first president was Efthemios Papazisis who at present is a Greek Orthodox Priest in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

PAST PRESIDENTS

William Siracopoulos
George Davis
Nicholas Bacalis
Chrisandos Themides
Gus Orfanides
Efsthathios Vourlas
Nicholas Bacalis
Christ George

Costas Maroulis
Efsthathios Vourlas
Peter Angelopoulos
T. D. Anthoulidis
Efsthathios Vourlas
Arthur Skaltsounis
James Kukunas



THE GREEK-AMERICAN CIVIC LEAGUE OF NORFOLK VIRGINIA

From the best available information from the originators of the Greek-American Civic League of Norfolk, Virginia, it can be said that the idea and inspiration of the organization was formed about the importance and the necessity of Greek-Americans who were permanent residents of the City of Norfolk and American citizens formulating an organization that could participate in the political and civic affairs of the City of Norfolk and on a statewide basis.

Some of the original organizers were Peter Forchas, the late Sam Douros, the late James Galanides, George L. Davis, Louis Cummings, Nick Bacalis and Peter Collias.

Some of the past presidents who have served for many years and with distinction

are: Peter Collias, George L. Davis, Gus Boogades, D. L. Bassil, Nick Gretakis, Chris P. Christopoulos and Gus Anninos.

The City of Norfolk and the State of Virginia are familiar with the Greek-American Civic League of Norfolk, Virginia. In past years, many banquets have been held by the League honoring local and state officials. In order to enable the membership of the Greek-American Civic League to choose the best qualified candidates, the League has held open meetings where candidates for various offices have appeared and expressed their views on political issues.

Today, the League can boast of over 800 registered voters and the present officers and board of directors are working toward qualifying over 1,500 registered voters.

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NORFOLK, VIRGINIA



SUNDAY SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN

FIRST ROW (left to right)—Holly Yates, Andrew Nicholas, Denise Bithos, Vera Ellen How, George Georges, Angelo Manuel, Larry (Lee) Larson, Nick Georges, Jerry Galanides, Josie Bowles, name unknown, Steve Neskis.

SECOND ROW (left to right)—Anastacia, Mary Chrysostomides, Angelo Neskis, Jackie Mavromites, Tom Tye, Sammie Dean Mandaleris, Marine Georgiades, Irena Lymbouris, Susan Matiatos, Stella Pappas, Jerry Caravas, Irene Houmis, Louisa Caravas, Diane Griffith.

THIRD ROW (left to right)—Dorothy Jordan, Robert Ledington, Stella Manuel, Debbie Councilman, Philip Foussakis, Caren Babalas, Craig Eugene, Johnny Maroulis, Robin McElroy, Jim Pantalides, Chris Paphites, Chris Georgiades, Tassos Paphites.

NOT SHOWN IN PICTURE—Alec Michaelides, Andrea Lee Polizos, Angela Renesis, Tommie Townsend, Elaine Themedis, Nicholas Renesis, Catherina Kaoudis, John Kaoudis, Ann George, Billy Liosatos, Demetrios Rerras, Diane Georghiou, Thalia Vasilion, Theodore Papafil, Michail Ioanou, John Eagan, Billy Bantele, Phil Eagon, Cindy Eugene, Paul Eugene, Michelle Paris.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL — SIX AND SEVEN YEAR OLDS

FIRST ROW (left to right)—Susan Catsellis, Steve Bithos, Carrie Zenzitilles, Johnny Georgiades, Jimmy Goebel, George Constance, Stephanie Galanides, Stella Caravas, Andrea Lott, Jimmy Caravas, Mike Skaltsounis, George Chrysostomides.

SECOND ROW (left to right)—Johnny Ioannou, Robert Tye, Susan Mandis, Roxanne Murray, John Giannoutsos, Denise Evangil, Joan Varelas, Chris Larson, Ted Vergakis, Ricky Lott, Angela Ledington.

THIRD ROW (left to right)—George Ladikos, Marina Evangil, Theresa Hubbard, Mary Masouris, Athena Pappas, Carrie Houmis, Paul Angelson, Lewis Georges, Stephan Peris, Chris Eugenides, Johnny Foussekis, Dean Themides, Chris Gabriel, Jeannette Constantine.

ABSENT FROM PICTURE—Paul Varelas, Philip Theodosiou, Andrew Markus, Helen Kiriakou, Steve Donahue, Evan Perros, Kathy Eagon, Mark Ballard, Ronnie Marie Donahue, Matina Soferales, John Georgiou, Speros Rerras, George Habib, Jr., Mike Boogades.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL — ELEVEN YEAR OLDS

FIRST ROW (left to right)—John Makryianis, Leigh Gretes, Anne Constant, Elaine Mandis, Irene Luzins, Danny Yates, Paul Varelas.

SECOND ROW (left to right)—Gregory Gretes, Bucky Mandaleris, Jim Varelas, Anthony Taflambis, Paul Baker, Chris Paphitis, Jim Constantine, Chris Kypros, Billy Kassinos.

NOT SHOWN IN PICTURE—Joan Bacalis, Nick Bonis, Ike Chris, Michael Evans, George Georgiou, Peter Marcos, Tracy Maroulis, Dennis Taflambas, Cynthia Preston, Sandra Preston.

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SECOND ROW (left to right)—Billy Gretes, John Catselis, George Lymbouris, Joan Matiatos, Athena Ladikos, Athena Rizis, Helen Varelas, Mary Constantinides, Mecia Koutroulis, Georgette Constant, Mickey Vasilion.

THIRD ROW (top, left to right)—Pete Maroulis, Tony Pantelides, George Kypros, Billy Varelas, Jimmy Bassil, Georgie Christie, James Elliott, George Georgiades, George N. Georgiades, Nicholas Gabriel, George Lenington, Gus Ladikos.

MISSING FROM PICTURE—Michael Diamond, Tommy Lira, Aphro Spellos, Louis Spellos, George Theodosious, Vangie Varelas, Anna Maria Galanides, Donna Christine McElory, Helen Perros, Chris Thymides, Billy Varelas, Demetra Sakellis, John Sakellis, Cornelia Kambetsis, Elizabeth Eagan, Helen Kyriakou, Chris Eagan, John Marcus.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL — TEN, ELEVEN-YEAR OLDS AND TEEN-AGERS

FRONT ROW (left to right)—Elene Angelopoulos, Sandra Kotarides, Suzanne Anargyros, Joanna Gretes, Demetra Savapoulos, Stella Skaltsounis, Helen Skaltsounis, Linda Pantelides, Hope Christie, Aleca Bassil, Helen Marcus, Anne Theodosius.

SECOND ROW—Zeno Chrysostomides, Andrew Constantinides, Peter Christy, George Constantinides, Van Christopher, Nick Koutroulias, Steve Houmis, Melvin Paris, Gus Vassos, Tommy Christold, John Gretes, Dennis Taflambas, John Gretes.

THIRD ROW (left to right)—Dean Barnett, George Savopoulos, Tony Kouzi, Clayton Elliott, Tony Votsis, George Gretes, Tony Damalas, Andy Damalas, Panos Macriyiannis, Tony Pantelides, Tommy Loizides, Juris Luzin, Jamie Christopher.

NOT SHOWN IN PICTURE—Chris Shristie, Harry Kypros, Chris Kyrus, John L. Manos, Patricia Peris, Ernest Vasilion, Frank Lira, Theone Rellos, Thom Vourlas, Mark Mousouris, Gregory Gretes, Peter Gretes, Jimmy Galanides.

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GROUND BREAKING FOR COMMUNITY CENTER, JULY 6, 1958

LEFT TO RIGHT—Costas Maroulis, Mr. Peter J. Boogades, Mrs. Peter J. Boogades, Father Anthony Pappas.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Boogades Breaking Ground for the New Hellenic Community Center.

Father Anthony Pappas Looking On.

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ROBERT E. LEE
CHAPTER NO. 122
ORDER OF AHEPA

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AHEPA PRESIDENT, ANTHONY JORDAN PRESENTING CHECK TO CHURCH TREASURER, DEMETRIOS GALANIDES WITH CHURCH PRESIDENT PETER MATHEWS LOOKING ON.—1957.

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PRINCESS ANNE

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LEFT TO RIGHT—Arthur Skaltsounis, Father Anthony Pappas, Telemachos Anthoulides (retired after 35 years service), Mrs. Thomas Lira (President, Hellenic Woman's Club), James Galanides (Church Treasurer), Peter Mathews (Church President), Gus Maroulis, Dr. Nicholas Georgiades.

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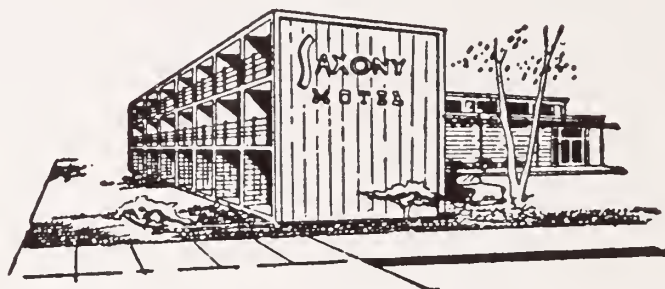




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to members of the congregation . . .
to all friends of the Norfolk Greek Orthodox Church on its 50th Anniversary:

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GREEK PLAY "H NYMPHI TOU VOUNOU" — JUNE 5, 1932



GREEK SCHOOL PLAY — 1926

FIRST ROW (left to right)—Katie Constantine (Mrs. Arthur Skaltsounis), Karanicholas girl, Helen Karavas, Margaret Karnezis (Mrs. James Christopher), Polly Tsoukatos (Mrs. James Loizides), Anastasia Gianniatas (Mrs. Vasilios Giannoutsos), James Karnezis, Bessie Constant (Mrs. Tom Lira), James Anargyros, Catherine Tsoukatos (Mrs. Ted Stamatis), Paul Bacalis.

SECOND ROW—Karanicholas girl, Stacey Anargyros (Mrs. George Mesologites), Ourania Constantine, Angelo Constantine, Gus Bacalis, Sotirios Votsis, Pauline Anargyros (Mrs. Chris A. Christopoulos), Stella Gretes, Roxanna Karnezis (Mrs. John Parker, Jr.), Stamatia Karavas, Evzone—Kominos Boy.

THIRD ROW—Virginia Vergakis (Mrs. Gus Rogis), Penelope Christopoulos (Mrs. Chris P. Christopoulos), Alice Pallas, Miss Lazaridou, Helen Christopoulos (Mrs. King Thomas), Vergakis girl, Helen Diavides.

FOURTH ROW—Karanicholas boy, Anna Constant (Mrs. Brad Willis), Sophie Constant (Mrs. Bill Photinos), Helen Tsoukatos (Mrs. Andrew Nichols), Artemis Vasileon, Anita Nestor (Mrs. Peter Forchas), Rebecca Diavides, Helen Christo, Doukas girl.

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GREEK SCHOOL SKIT — 1926



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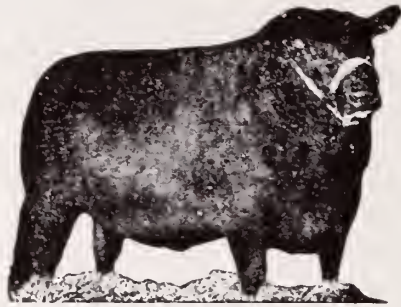
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